



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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6 October 1994

NOTICE TO READERS: Effective 1 October, the processing indicators appearing in brackets at the start of each item in this publication will be changed. All new indicators will begin with "FBIS" to make the material more easily identifiable. Some will also indicate whether the item has been translated from the vernacular or transcribed from English.

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Arab-Israeli Talks

Israeli-Palestinian Talks on Election Issues End

Rothschild on Points of Accord

TA0510155394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500
GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The first round of talks between the Israeli and Palestinian delegations on elections in the territories ended in Cairo this afternoon. The talks will resume next Monday.

Major General Dani Rothschild, head of the Israeli delegation, told our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem that most of the understandings reached in this round of talks pertain to technical matters. Gen. Rothschild said Israel will allow the opening of six regional bureaus to deal with the elections as soon as the Palestinians inform Israel of their location. According to him, the Palestinians understood that only one council will be elected in the elections—as was agreed in Oslo—and that the council's size and powers will be discussed later on in the talks.

Israel expects the Palestinians to respond next week to its reservations about extremist and racist elements—such as Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], which call for Israel's annihilation—participating in the elections.

Head Palestinian Negotiator Comments

JN0510124794 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic
0600 GMT 5 Oct 94

[Interview with Sa'ib 'Urayqat, head of the Palestinian delegation to the talks with Israel, by Ahmad Zaki in Cairo on 5 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Zaki] Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, head of the Palestinian delegation to the Cairo talks, good morning. What are the results of the meetings with the Israeli side on elections and the Israeli Army's withdrawal from the populated areas?

['Urayqat] As we have said, it is premature to judge the negotiations. We, in the elections committee, presented our proposals to the Israeli side some time ago. The basic principle is based on the separation of authorities. We cannot have true democracy unless there is a system that guarantees accountability and control. These are the fundamentals of democracy. We have discussed in detail the nature of the council. We proposed electing a council that is both executive and legislative in nature, as stipulated in the Declaration of Principles [DOP]. This means legislative elections for a legislative council. This council will have an executive body formed from inside and outside the council. The important thing is that the executive body's terms of reference should lie in the council.

The other thing is that we have submitted proposals on some procedural matters, including opening regional offices. We were able to overcome this problem. God

willing, we will announce the opening of regional election offices next week. As for the civil registration records needed for listing voters, we will obtain the Israeli version in order to start the process of verification and registration of voters above 18 years of age. We have also made some progress in the survey intended to specify constituencies and voting centers.

[Zaki] Does this mean that population records and documents will be handed over next week?

['Urayqat] As I have told you, Dr. Hasan Abu-Libdah, along with some experts, will go and see what is there. We hope that the Israeli Government will respond to the requirements of the elections process.

[Zaki] Did you reach an agreement on the number of legislative council members?

['Urayqat] The important thing is that we should underline the principle of separation between legislative and executive functions and between those in charge of the two. They cannot be the same people. This principle was endorsed. We have proposed 100 members from the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. We hope the Israeli side will express its opinion in this regard. We have said that after the legislative and executive nature of the council has been approved, other issues like the number of members or internal authorities and divisions will be internal Palestinian issues. This is what we insist on.

We also talked about the election law. Of course, the Palestinian election law is ready, and it has been referred to His Excellency President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] for endorsement. The Israeli side has put forward some views on those who are entitled to vote or run for office and on voter registration. We have not discussed these issues because they will divide the law, which we will not allow to happen. We will submit the Palestinian election law from A to Z once it has been endorsed. It will be the main term of reference for our talks on the elections' procedural issues.

[Zaki] Has a final date been set for conducting legislative elections, Dr. Sa'ib?

['Urayqat] As you know, we insist on the need to conduct elections before the end of this year. We hope that we can overcome all obstacles. We can overcome all obstacles if Israel fully adheres to what it signed in the DOP. A great deal of valuable time has been wasted due to the Israeli procedures which have delayed voter registration, the opening of offices, and a social survey. We hope that we can overcome all these obstacles in order to be able to conduct elections before the end of this year.

[Zaki] What are the differences with the Israeli side?

['Urayqat] There are substantial differences. No agreement has yet been reached on the nature of the council. I think that the council elections should be the basis of the negotiations. When we talk about general political

elections, it is unreasonable to confine them to electing members of an executive body. We, as Palestinians, categorically reject this. There has been some Israeli response in this regard. Today, and for the first time, they [Israelis] have made a distinction between the executive and legislative bodies. As a matter of fact, there are many differences, but they are mainly on procedural matters. We are talking about basic issues like who will take part in elections. Every Palestinian above 18 on the day of elections will be entitled to take part. As for candidacy, every Palestinian above 30 who meets the procedural conditions set by the Palestinian elections committee in this regard, can run for office, regardless of his political opinions or affiliations.

[Zaki] Have you discussed the issue of supervision of the Rafah and Gaza crossings and the safe passage between Gaza and Jericho?

[Urayqat] No. In fact, this issue will not be discussed within this framework of negotiations. What we have discussed is the issue of our brother detainees in the Israeli prisons and the need to release them so that they can take part in the Palestinian political life and in the Palestinian elections. Negotiations are now confined to elections. Other issues like crossings, security matters, and safe passages will take place elsewhere.

[Zaki] Has a specific date been set for the release of Palestinians from Israeli prisons?

[Urayqat] No. In fact, the Israeli delegation has not responded positively to this issue. We, however, will do our best to realize this goal. The participation of all Palestinians in the elections, headed by our imprisoned brethren, is urgently needed at this new stage in the political history of the Palestinian and Arab region. It is also essential for the peace process. It is illogical to have a peace process and elections while the Israeli prisons are crammed with Palestinian prisoners. These prisoners did what they did under different circumstances. The leadership, which used to issue orders to them to take part in these actions, has signed a peace agreement. Therefore, in order to bring the peace process to a successful conclusion, all prisoners must be released. As I said, we will do our utmost. No positive Israeli response has been noted thus far.

[Zaki] Back to the issue of legislative elections, have you discussed elections in Jerusalem?

[Urayqat] The DOP, signed in Oslo, expressly stipulates that the Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem will take part in the elections. Participation in elections means nomination, voting, and polling centers. These issues were discussed, but no agreement has been reached. It continues to be a controversial issue.

[Zaki] Was the difference over polling centers?

[Urayqat] We have not discussed this issue. We must agree on these places, but the difference is on the Israeli position. The DOP stipulates that agreement must be reached on the way the East Jerusalem residents can

participate in the elections. This means that Israel alone cannot decide that they whether they can vote or run for elections. Agreement means the two sides' consent. This issue—Jerusalem in the elections—is at the top of the agenda at the talks in this round.

[Zaki] Dr. Sa'ib, have you briefed His Excellency President 'Arafat on the course of negotiations, and what are his impressions?

[Urayqat] As a matter of fact, our delegation has been entrusted with a mission. We do not make decisions for the Palestinian people. We have come here upon clear instructions from His Excellency President Abu-'Ammar. We are discharging this mission. We maintain daily contacts with his excellency the president. We present daily reports to him and receive his instructions. As I said at the outset, it is not easy to judge the talks after only one day. We have become accustomed to the fact that the Israeli positions articulated in negotiations are not final. We cannot just wait for what the Israeli delegation or officials may say. All I can say is that we have a position, which is based on the DOP, on electing a 100-member legislative council and conducting general political elections, in which all Palestinians participate, regardless of their political leanings, beliefs, or positions on the peace process and other issues. We have to mention that the DOP stipulates that the elections are a preparatory stage for the Palestinian people's exercise of their legitimate rights and the attainment of their just demands. The elections cannot be conducted without the redeployment of Israeli troops in areas outside populated areas—our cities, villages, and camps. This redeployment would enable our people and security forces to run and participate in the elections, and to revise laws. Therefore, we have proposed parallel talks on elections, redeployment, and the revision of laws. The aim of what is going on now is to implement the DOP in full. The next step should witness a phased agreement, which should include and be crowned by elections after the Israeli troops have completed their redeployment outside populated areas.

[Zaki] Dr. Sa'ib, what is Israel's stand toward the DOP agreement?

[Urayqat] They keep saying that they are committed to the DOP. We believe that commitment to the DOP will be shown by the ability to implement it on the ground. Israel's stand toward the DOP will be evaluated positively or negatively according to its attitude toward implementation on the ground. Therefore, we say that it is possible to conduct these legislative elections before the end of the year. In fact, the whole world realizes that the ball is in the Israeli court.

[Zaki] A final question, Dr. Sa'ib, what does electing a legislative and executive council mean for the Palestinians?

[Urayqat] In democratic systems, elections are basically a tool with which nations consecrate and preserve democracy. The important thing is that the Palestinian people can elect their representatives through general national political elections of a legislative council, part of which will serve as an

executive authority. This executive authority will, of course, be accountable before the council, just like any other true democratic system. We are seeking to lay the foundations of a true and full Palestinian democratic system.

[Zaki] Thank you Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, head of the Palestinian delegation to Cairo talks.

['Urayqat] You are welcome.

More on 'Urayqat, Rothschild Remarks

NC0510220394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT
5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—The first round of the Palestinian-Israeli talks on the issue of the Palestinian legislative council elections in the West Bank and Gaza was concluded in Cairo tonight and will be resumed on [passage indistinct].

Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, head of the Palestinian delegation to the talks, expressed hope that an official Israeli stance on the legislative council will take shape during the next round of talks. He said: Regarding the number of council members, the Palestinian side proposed that there should be 100 members. He added that deciding the members' number is an internal Palestinian issue.

He added: As to the general principles and participation in the elections, Israel and others should fully understand that when we talk about the elections, we are talking about an administration that will bring about the democratic Palestinian society. He noted that democracy means political pluralism and a variety of ideas and viewpoints and, consequently, it would be impermissible for the Palestinian side to discuss the exclusion of any Palestinian citizen from participation in these elections just because he voices different views.

He stressed that raising the issue of excluding any Palestinian from the elections process would undermine this whole process. He also stressed that any 18-year-old Palestinian in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza will vote in the elections and any 30-year-old Palestinian will have the right to nominate himself and to vote, and this applies to all the Palestinian movements and political parties. He said: This is a principled and basic Palestinian stance.

Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat then said: We have proposed that the negotiations should proceed in parallel so that we can hold the elections at the end of this year. Explaining what he meant by parallel, he said: There are issues on which a phased agreement in its final form need to be reached and these include the elections, the redeployment of the Israeli forces, the review of laws, and the transfer of the other civilian authorities. He added that the Palestinian side proposed that the committees' work should proceed in parallel to reach an agreement.

Regarding reports that there are three Israeli conditions for [word indistinct] participation in the elections, 'Urayqat said: We do not deal with conditions. We told the Israeli delegation that the election issue is an internal

Palestinian affair and if there are Israeli interests spelled out in the Declaration of Principles, then they have to present them and we will study them. He noted that talk about democracy from the Palestinian point of view means the participation of everybody.

'Urayqat refuted Israeli media claims that it is necessary for any Palestinian from the factions opposed to the peace process to renounce violence and support the Oslo agreement. He said in this case we will ask the Israeli side to pass a law obliging every Israeli who votes in the Knesset elections to sign a pledge supporting the Oslo agreement. He stressed that the Israeli conditions are unacceptable and totally illogical. He expressed the hope that an agreement will be reached on the elections before the end of this year.

For his part, Dani Rothschild, head of the Israeli delegation, said the election process is at the core of the democratic process. He indicated that this round of talks dealt with many topics and details on an agreement with the Palestinian side has not been reached yet.

He said the Palestinian proposals on the elections might solve 30 to 80 percent of these matters, which are mostly internal Palestinian affairs but necessarily concern us. He added that during this round we have drawn up a general outline of all these matters so that we will deal with them thoroughly during the coming round.

He noted that the two sides discussed matters connected with the jurisdiction and nature of the legislative council and the conditions for naming candidates and voting in the elections.

Rothschild denied that there are prior Israeli conditions regarding the Palestinian candidates to the legislative council but said there is an Israeli stance on this issue that we have explained to the Palestinian side.

Rothschild summed up this stance in three points: No Palestinian will be allowed to run for the council if he calls for the destruction of Israel, if he carries out a racist propaganda against Israel, and if he calls in his election program for the annulment of the Palestinian-Israeli declaration. He said we have not specified certain persons or parties. He explained that Israel is not against Palestinian opponents to the peace process but those who call for Israel's destruction.

'Urayqat Leaves Cairo

NC0510224594 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT
5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—The Palestinian delegation led by Sa'ib 'Urayqat, municipalities minister in the Palestinian National Authority, left Cairo this evening following two days of talks in Cairo with an Israeli delegation.

'Urayqat stated that they agreed during the talks to resume negotiations in Cairo on Monday, noting that the round that concluded today achieved progress in the procedural matters concerning the demographic survey.

Jordan's al-Tarawinah on Talks With Israel*JN0610081094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0500 6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks, has expressed hope that the next round of talks, set for Monday [10 October], will produce substantial progress in the issues listed on the agenda, the foremost of which are land and water. On this round of talks, our correspondent Jawad al-'Umari had the following telephone conversation with Dr. al-Tarawinah:

[Begin recording] [Al-'Umari] Dr. Fayiz, let's start with the next round of Jordanian-Israeli talks in Elat on 10 October. Will this round be decisive vis-a-vis the issue of land and water?

[Al-Tarawinah] As you know, in August we worked out agendas for the September and October meetings. This round of talks was, therefore, decided some time ago. It is a continuation of talks, especially on sovereignty-related issues. We hope that this round will be decisive. Our stand is crystal clear, particularly on the issues of water, land, and borders. We will resume negotiations from 10 to 20 October, for two working weeks. These three topics will be the focus of talks by three committees, in addition to other committees formed during the bilateral talks. Hence, all the issues will be discussed with the utmost seriousness. We hope to produce good results.

[Al-'Umari] Are you going to discuss issues related to tourism, like opening a crossing in the north?

[Al-Tarawinah] An agreement was reached on the northern crossing in the previous round in Tiberias. What remains is to rebuild the bridge. As you know, and as we announced, this crossing will be used for third country nationals, just like the southern crossing. There will be no direct exchanges before the conclusion of the bilaterals. This crossing, however, is important for tourism. It might help prolong the stay of third country tourists. When he enters via the southern crossing, he can stay longer in Jordan and may leave via the northern crossing and vice-versa. Therefore, it facilitates matters for third country tourists or individuals. This issue is now practically over. What remains is the technical aspect of building the bridge. I think it will be ready within a very short period.

[Al-'Umari] At the end of this meeting, we thank Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, our ambassador to Washington and head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks.

[Al-Tarawinah] Thank you. [end recording]

Paper Urges Removing 'Obstacles' From Syrian Track*MM0510132694 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 5 Oct 94 p 9*

[Editorial: "Right Path for Peace; Speeding Up Achievement of Jordanian-Israeli Peace Treaty Does Not Negate Pressing Need To Remove Obstacles From Syrian Track"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It is clear that there is special interest in the draft Jordanian-Israeli agreement. This interest was reflected in the conversation exchanged between Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Jordanian Crown Prince Hasan, and then in the comments made by U.S. President Bill Clinton, who spoke about broad hopes for the future of peace.

There was also talk about a trade zone between the two countries, economic cooperation, and a border agreement. And it was announced recently that the final and comprehensive agreement will be completed before the end of the year, which is not far. All this is proof of the two sides' urgent desire to reach the final agreement quickly.

At the same time the Syrian-Israeli negotiations appear to be suspended or frozen. When it comes to the Golan, Peres and Rabin say that they will refer to the people to seek their opinion—something which we have not heard with regard to Jordan's agreements, including those concerning the territories seized by Israel.

Working for a comprehensive peace among all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict is something which everyone welcomes, provided no time bombs—that is, problems—are left unresolved, since that would cause the situation to explode again. It would also lead to the collapse of the peace foundations, which have been built hastily and without sincere intentions.

If the Jordanian and Israeli sides are in clear harmony, as reflected in all recent steps, it is necessary for this harmony to emerge between other parties, especially between Israel and Palestine. Perhaps the Syrian-Israeli negotiations will reveal the real success of the peace plan.

Syria is stressing its right to recover the Golan Heights in full, and both the United Nations and world public opinion agree with it. Nevertheless, when Yitzhaq Rabin talks about withdrawal from the Golan, he sets several conditions for it—which cast doubt on the sincerity of the desire for peace.

Rabin is demanding that the Arab economic boycott of Israel be lifted, but he rarely talks clearly about the real pillars of peace, first and foremost the withdrawal from the Golan and from southern Lebanon, the establishment of a Palestinian state, the destruction of nuclear weapons, and a life based on the law and respect for rights.

Speeding up a Jordanian-Israeli agreement is not sufficient on its own to assure people about the future. And although it is a positive step, its value will not be consolidated unless the peace plan moves quickly in the right direction.

Palestinian Affairs**'Important' Talks To Start With Jordan 10 Oct***JN0610113794 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 6 Oct 94 pp 1, 17*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Ramallah, Occupied West Bank—AL-RA'Y—Palestinian Culture and Information

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Minister Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh has told AL-RA'Y that important Jordanian-Palestinian talks will be held in Amman on Monday [10 October], adding that he will lead a delegation comprised of many members of the Palestinian National Authority [PNA]. 'Abd-Rabbuh said that the delegation will discuss political and economic issues with the brothers in Jordan in order to reach practical arrangement on all levels. He added that the talks are aimed at moving the relationship to a new level and at reaching agreements on issues that concern both sides, particularly in the economic field, as well as on the administrative and technical measures affecting citizens lives.

'Abd-Rabbuh added: The discussion will also cover the issue of awqaf [Islamic endowments] to safeguard the Palestinian responsibility toward all the institutions and property of the Palestinian people and their Islamic holy places in the Palestinian territory. [passage omitted]

'Abd-Rabbuh reaffirmed the Palestinian side's firm commitment to removing any flaws obstructing the strengthening of the fraternal Jordanian-Palestinian relations. He added that the meeting was postponed for a week to prepare all files in order to reach tangible results in the coming rounds of talks.

The Jordanian and Palestinian sides had formed a follow-up committee in August to study and follow up on aspects of cooperation in the various fields of mutual concern.

DFLP Meeting Said To Open Amid 'Disagreement'

TA3009184394 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Sep 94

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] Palestinian sources close to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] have said that the DFLP convened its third general conference in Damascus yesterday amid a climate of disagreement. The Quds Press news agency reported that a DFLP Central Committee member who is boycotting the meetings has affirmed that 30 of the 70 Central Committee members and six Political Bureau members are not attending the conference, which is slated to last four days. The opponents are accusing DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah of making unilateral decisions.

APF Condemns Arrests Among DFLP Members in Gaza

JN0510210294 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Oct 94

["Press statement" issued by the APF on 5 October; place not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful. The arrest of some 60 cadres and strugglers of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] at the hands of the self-rule authority police in the Gaza Strip in the aftermath of three military operations against occupation troops and settlers confirms anew that 'Arafat's policemen are tools in the hands of the Zionist occupation authorities and that the task assigned them by the occupation authorities is to pursue and arrest strugglers, which used to be done by the occupation troops. This reflects the Zionists' delusions regarding the possible elimination of the valiant intifadah.

The successive arrest campaigns, which have previously targeted strugglers and mujahidin affiliated with Hamas [the Islamic Resistance Movement], Islamic Jihad, and the DFLP, the factions opposed to the Oslo and Cairo accords, show the intractable impasse plaguing these accords, as well as the chaos plaguing both the self-rule authority and the occupation authorities. Likewise, these arrest campaigns demonstrate the possibility of thwarting and neutralizing these accords.

While saluting the rejuvenated intifadah, the Alliance of Palestinian Forces [APF] condemns this suspect conduct, which is turning 'Arafat's policemen into tools of repression against the Palestinian people and guardians protecting the occupation troops and settlers. Furthermore, the APF would like to reiterate its rejection of the Oslo and Cairo accords. It urges our masses to step up their intifadah against the occupation authorities throughout the Palestinian territories, and to intensify their attacks against the occupation troops and hordes of settlers throughout the occupied territories. At the same time, the APF would like to warn 'Arafat and his police against the specter of the civil war they are planning for. It demands the immediate release of all prisoners, whether they are held in the occupation authorities' jails or the jails of the 'Arafat police.

The APF urges all international and regional forces and organizations that cherish justice, freedom, and peace to support the Palestinian people's legitimate right to wage all kinds of struggle until they achieve their objectives of liberation, repatriation, self-determination, and national independence on equal footing with all world people. It also urges these forces and organizations to do their best to put an end to the inhuman practices perpetrated by the occupation authorities and the submissive self-rule authority, which are in violation of the most basic human rights.

[Signed] The APF

[Dated] 5 October 1994

Algeria

New GIA Leaders Appointed; Mahfoud Named 'Amir'

MM0510143094 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
5 Oct 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Kamil al-Tawil: "'Group' Chooses Amir, Military Officials"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] London, New York, AL-HAYAH—The Armed Islamic Group [GIA] in Algeria announced yesterday that it has appointed a new amir [leader], namely Abou Khalil Mahfoud, to succeed Cherif Gousmi, who was killed in a clash with security forces in Algeria a few days ago. The Group's announcement, which came in a statement a copy of which AL-HAYAH has received, refutes another statement distributed in Algiers, which announced the appointment of Cheikh Mohamed Said as the Group's amir. [passage omitted]

In its undated new statement, which is signed by its new amir, Abou Khalil Mahfoud, the Group announced large-scale appointments in its military sectors, which have over the past two weeks suffered severe blows in confrontations with Algerian security forces. Among the most notable appointments is the appointment of Said Makhloufi as an "amir" for the eighth zone. Makhloufi is a former official of the Islamic Salvation Front's military wing. He joined the GIA last May, pledging allegiance to its amir, Abou Abdallah.

While it is difficult to confirm the truth of the Group's statements, it is natural for some parties in the GIA to be dissatisfied with the appointment of Cheikh Said as an amir to succeed its late leader. This is because Said leads a tendency of Algerian Islamic intellectuals known as the "Algerianization tendency." The GIA's political hardliners are not expected to accept being led by a non-Salafi [nonreformist]. This hard-line tendency in the Group is known as the "Afghans tendency." It is believed that this tendency is not satisfied with Cheikh Said's assumption of the Group's leadership. Some circles said the Group's recent statement was maybe issued by the Afghan tendency. But they stressed that this is merely speculation, and that the situation inside the Group is not clear yet (since the death of Abou Abdallah). [passage omitted]

The statement pointed out that, "according to the Shari'ah, the Group should not stay without an amir for more than three days. This is why the shura council held an emergency session and brother Abou Khalil Mahfoud was appointed as the GIA's amir, brother Abou Sahib Khalid as first deputy, and brother Abou Thabit El Afghani as second deputy. Allegiance was pledged to the amir. The appointment of the following brothers was confirmed: Abou Ja'far Mohamed as amir for the first zone, Abou 'Ubaydah Hassan as amir for the second zone, Abdellatif as amir for the third zone, Abderrahim as amir for the fourth zone, Abou Mus'ab as amir for the

fifth zone, Radwan Achir as amir for the sixth zone, Abou Talha as amir for the seventh zone, Said Makhloufi as amir for the eighth zone, and Abou Yasir as amir for the ninth zone."

The statement went on: "Let the whole world know that we will not change at all from what the Group was in the past. We challenge the circles supporting that regime, and we tell them that we will fight them until we achieve an orthodox caliphate based on the prophet's program."

New Government Spokesman Appointed

LD0510163494 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in French 1300 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] A new government spokesman has been appointed. Ahmed Attaf, secretary of state for cooperation and Maghreb affairs, was chosen by the prime minister to replace Mrs. Leila Aslaoui who resigned.

Egypt

Mubarak Address Marks October War Anniversary

NC0510123294 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1102 GMT 5 Oct 94

[Speech by President Husni Mubarak on 1973 October war anniversary, in Cairo—live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother citizens, our brothers and sons in the Armed Forces, the 6th of October, one of Egypt's immortal days, returns annually as a dear national holiday to every Egyptian and Arab heart because it symbolizes lofty, precious values that will continue to inspire Egypt's national and pan-Arab struggle for many generations to come.

The October anniversary embodies the restoration of Egyptian spirit and the awakening of national will in a splendid military victory that changed the course of Middle Eastern events, altered the balance of power, and revealed Egypt's intrinsic prowess and resourcefulness.

It is a day of pride for our valiant Armed Forces who achieved a strategic surprise that demonstrated the capability of the Egyptian military to plan and execute with minute precision.

The October war altered numerous concepts and beliefs about war and combat and imparted lasting glory to the Egyptian military record.

October is a day of cohesion between Army and public, for without this noble nation's sacrifices, which defied defeat, that great day would not have been possible. The Egyptian people championed their Armed Forces and stood by their side, confident of their ability to restore the homeland's dignity and the Egyptian military's glory and pride.

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Throughout the years of preparation for that triumphant day, the Egyptian public provided all possible assistance to their Armed Forces. The domestic front's steadfastness was an extension of the fighting men's resolve on the banks of the Suez Canal as they impatiently waited for zero hour. And when the great crossing occurred, Egypt stood as one man, demonstrating a noble moral fiber able to work miracles.

October is the festival of Arab solidarity at its most splendid. The magnificent initiative of the liberation war restored an old Arab glory, manifesting complete coordination and unanimous pan-Arab support from the Atlantic to the Gulf.

Greetings to the great Egyptian nation which supported its Armed Forces to secure victory.

Greetings to our Armed Forces who, with their glorious victory, created Egypt's greatest and most unforgettable anniversary.

Greetings to Egypt's brave martyrs, who gave their lives for the homeland's dignity. Greetings to everyone who participated in achieving this historic epic on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts, in its planning, preparation, and implementation. Greetings to the spirit of Arab solidarity, which, in a glorious battle, united the Arab position so that all the factors of victory were assured. The October war anniversary has become a dear day for every Egyptian and every Arab because it symbolizes the most splendid form of Arab solidarity. These are some of the significant messages of this glorious event, which will continue to leave its mark throughout our contemporary history and reveal Egypt's far sight, which is embodied in the great decision to cross the Suez Canal, a decision that was made with courage and wisdom.

The courage of the decision was manifest in its serious timing, which affirmed to the world that the call for enhancing military relaxation in the Middle East on the pretext of maintaining world peace was rejected by Egypt and the Arab World. The decision was a bold challenge rejecting the status quo in the Middle East. The wisdom of the decision was manifest because it specified a clear objective for the war, that is, peace based on justice, a peace that achieves security for all the parties. The wisdom of the decision was also manifest when departed President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat stood up at the Egyptian People's Assembly, while the Egyptian Armed Forces were at the bridgeheads and deep in Sinai, and called from a position of strength and dignity on all the parties to achieve a fair and permanent peace that will safeguard equal rights for all parties free of domination and hegemony. Greetings to the decisionmaker, hero of war and peace, Egypt's martyr, the departed President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, who, with his historic and deep vision, was ahead of his time. He safeguarded the victory achieved by the Egyptian Armed Forces from surrounding perils that threatened to destroy it.

The October victory paved the way for a just and comprehensive peace reformulating life in the Middle

East on new bases of coexistence, good neighborliness, and equal cooperation among the peoples of the region. The hopes which appeared impossible to realize only a few years ago are now a reality, developing and getting stronger day after day. Peoples want peace and seek to make it from the position of dignity, respect of rights and duties, and constructive cooperation.

The October war had a decisive impact on the future of the Middle East. It demonstrated to everybody that there are limits to the use of force, and it prompted the world community to work for a comprehensive peace in this vital part of the world, whose stability is not possible if policies relinquishing the rights of others and trying to impose the status quo are pursued.

Egypt was and still is destined to wage the battle for peace in defense of the right of the region's peoples to security and justice. Through tough negotiations, it accomplished a peace treaty based on the exchange of all land for all peace. The treaty also stressed the need for full withdrawal to the internationally-recognized border within the framework of normal relations that do not harm national sovereignty, hurt the interests of the country, or give preference or privilege beyond good neighborliness and equal relations among countries.

Brothers and sisters: From the first day and at all levels, Egypt struggled to advance the process of a comprehensive peace. It proceeded from the clear vision that peace between Egypt and Israel is a pioneering step in the right direction, and that comprehensive peace cannot be achieved except by recognizing the rights of the Palestinian people and by finding a just settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict on all fronts. Egypt started moving down a tough road, and we were confident that we would reach our goal, irrespective of the powerful obstacles. We were backed by our self-confidence, our belief in the soundness of our objective, and our determination to realize it.

We were all confident that the just peace was no longer an impossible objective, and that it will be achieved in the region. Peace is the language of a new age that renounces violence, encourages tolerance and coexistence, and stresses respect for legitimacy and human rights.

How great the difference between past and present. The will to make peace has triumphed among the Palestinian and Israeli nations. Behold President 'Arafat in Gaza, entering it with security and dignity through the Egyptian gate, to chair the Palestinian National Authority and run the affairs of a people yearning for stability and security.

How great the difference between past and present. Not long ago 'Arafat and the PLO were every Israeli's primary adversary. Nevertheless the opponents of the past have succeeded in making a courageous peace that will lift the yoke of occupation from the Palestinian people's shoulders, fulfill mutual recognition and security, and

give the opportunity of a lifetime to two nations exhausted by a long, bitter conflict so that they can restore peace to the land of peace.

I do not wish to speak at length about Egypt's role in this achievement. It is sufficient to know that we have the Palestinian people's testimony that Egypt has always been—and will ever be—their sincere and true supporter as they strove to regain their legitimate rights.

I trust that the expansion of the self-rule authority to include all the West Bank, and its success in improving the conditions of Palestinians and addressing the bad economic situation will boost the trend of peace among the Palestinian people and diminish the hopeless acts of violence that aim to sabotage the peace process.

On this occasion, I appeal to the world community to support the Palestinian National Authority and keep its promises to help this authority perform its difficult mission. Thus will the Palestinians see the fruits of peace evident in a real change of the tragic conditions they have lived through during the past few decades.

Doubtlessly the battles of peace are no less dangerous or difficult than armed combat because the battles of peace involve development and reconstruction and seek to serve the good of the masses and alter their living conditions via continuous economic development for the sake of a better future.

The major progress on the Palestinian-Israeli negotiating track paved the way for similar progress on the Israeli-Jordanian track. I believe that the two sides are continuing to draw up a practical action plan regulating their relations in all spheres under the aegis of a full peace based on good neighborliness and mutual interest.

We have great hope that similar progress will soon occur on the Syrian and Lebanese negotiating tracks because the peace that all the parties have pledged to seek is a comprehensive one, the good results and effects of which will extend to all Arab fronts. Peace is the road to regional stability and security. It will produce a historic reconciliation that will replace conflict, violence, and tension. We are sure that President Hafiz al-Asad and the fraternal Syrian people are sincerely and resolutely seeking to attain a lasting and just peace, based on respect for the two sides' respective rights and their commitment to the law, legitimacy, and the mutually accepted points of reference, used as a basis for the negotiations since the Madrid conference of October 1991.

Our position on this is clear and needs no explanation. We believe that there is no alternative to full Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory, and no alternative to a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights so that there can be a full peace between Israel and both Syria and Lebanon. Since the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty offered a sound example primarily based on the formula of all land for all peace, we today believe more

than at any time before, that recognition of this correct rule by all parties will open the way for common understanding of the nature of mutual security measures and arrangements along the border areas.

Brothers and sisters: We have learned a great deal from the October victory: We have learned to have self-confidence and confidence in the future. We learned to accept the challenge and to reject oppression and aggression. We learned to have faith in the soundness of our goal and insistence on achieving it. We learned to perform our duty in the best possible way, confident that God will support us. This is the spirit of the October victory which fills our hearts with faith that we will achieve our goals, God willing, because we know the meaning of war and realize the value of peace. Because we desire the well-being of our nation and of all peoples of the region, a comprehensive and fair peace was our primary goal ever since our brave soldiers set foot on Sinai on that auspicious and blessed day. Peace is now rising from the debris of the past—strong, dignified, safeguarding right and life and giving hope for a better future. Peace is rising strong and dignified in Sinai, in the West Bank, and in the Gaza Strip. Tomorrow it will rise in the Golan and in Lebanon and in Jerusalem, the city of peace. The victory of the will of a fair peace is a victory for the Egyptian will, which resolved to reach the nurtured goal no matter what the difficulties and hurdles. Egypt was destined to embark alone on a road that seemed to others desolate and difficult and surrounded by perils and hardships. However, Egypt was not alone on the path; God's care was with Egypt together with all the peoples who aspired to a safe life to preserve the nation's youths, the homeland's sanctities, and the new generations of the future.

Brothers and sisters: Fair peace will remain Egypt's message to the whole world. Peace connotes righteousness, goodness, justice, the hope and demand of all peoples, and heaven's message for all mankind. I pray to God Almighty to grant us assistance and wisdom and guide us in our efforts for the well-being of our nation. God is the best supporter. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Mubarak Briefs Armed Forces Council

*NC0510141694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT
5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak reviewed the political situation in light of domestic, regional, and international developments at a meeting with the Higher Armed Forces Council at the Defense Ministry today.

Following the three-hour meeting, Marshal Muhammad Husayn Tantawi, minister of defense and war production, stated that President Mubarak dealt with all the issues that concern Egypt on every level and briefed council members on developments in the domestic, regional, and international arenas.

Police Arrest 13 Suspects in al-Ghardaqah Killing

NC0510165294 Paris AFP in English 1512 GMT
5 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Oct 5 (AFP)—Police have arrested 13 Islamic militants suspected of involvement in the murder of two Egyptians and a German tourist in the Red Sea resort of al-Ghardaqah last month, an Interior Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

The group included the two assailants who opened fire at a crowded market in al-Ghardaqah on September 27, the spokesman said. The other 11 were accomplices in the killing.

One was arrested in al-Ghardaqah, and the rest in the Muslim fundamentalist strongholds of Qina, al-Minya and Suhaj in southern Egypt.

"The attack was planned by six leaders of a terrorist organisation who were among the people arrested in the Samalut area of al-Minya," the spokesman said.

"Some of those arrested were implicated in other terrorist attacks planned at the beginning of July. They were staying in al-Ghardaqah, in apartments let to seasonal workers."

The outlawed al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah claimed the al-Ghardaqah attack.

It was the first attack in the Red Sea region since Islamic militants launched a violent campaign aimed at toppling the secular government of President Husni Mubarak in 1992.

Ten foreign tourists have been among more than 450 people killed in the militant unrest since March 1992.

Morocco

King Hassan Appoints Liaison Chief in Israel

LD0510165794 Rabat Moroccan Kingdom Radio
Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Ministry of Information has issued the following communique:

His Majesty King Hassan II, may God make him victorious, received at noon today at the Royal Palace in Ifrane, Mr. Talal Elghofrani. His Majesty has appointed Mr Elghofrani as head of the Liaison Bureau in Tel Aviv. His majesty gave Talal Elghofrani his sublime directives, recalling on this occasion Morocco's adherence to the implementation and development of the peace process in the Middle East. His majesty the king praised the qualities of Mr. Elghofrani, who, throughout his diplomatic career, has showed earnestness, dedication, and a sense of responsibility. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia**Finance Minister on Talks With U.S. Counterpart***LD0510212294 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1925 GMT 5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Jeddah, 5 Oct—His Excellency Muhammad Aba-al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, has said that at their meeting here today, he discussed with His Excellency Mr. Lloyd Bentsen, the U.S. treasury secretary, bilateral relations including the work of the Saudi-U.S. committee for economic and technical cooperation. In a statement made after the meeting he said: "The U.S. treasury secretary acquainted himself with the activities of this committee in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia over the past few years and with the programs which will be implemented in the future. He showed an increasing interest in the expansion of the committee's work, especially regarding the joint council of Saudi-U.S. businessmen which was recently set up," pointing out that the visiting U.S. secretary said that he will work for the strengthening of the U.S. side in this council. Minister Aba-al-Khayl added that among other matters he discussed with the U.S. secretary for the treasury the economic situation in the Kingdom and the expansion of the private sector in the industrial and agricultural sphere. In addition, the strengths of the Saudi economy were reviewed. He also said that the U.S. secretary supported the conclusions reached in this regard.

INA Reports U.S. Planning To Overthrow King Fahd*JN3009152694 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 30 Sep 94*

[Text] Washington, 30 Sep (INA)—The U.S. Administration has stepped up its campaign to overthrow King Fahd, since he is no longer of any use to it. The U.S. Administration has criticized King Fahd's government in the wake of last Monday's [26 September] arrests of 110 activists, including two clerics, demanding political reform in Saudi Arabia.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly said the United States expressed concern about this issue in the annual report on human rights in Saudi Arabia sent by the State Department to Congress.

The Saudi Ministry of Interior on 26 September announced the arrests of 110 people, including two clerics, who are demanding political reform in Saudi Arabia. The two clerics are accused of having contacts with foreign political groups.

Observers in Washington say the U.S. Administration's attitude toward King Fahd is reminiscent of its attitude toward the shah of Iran before Khomeyni came to power.

Rights Group on Torture of Government Opponents*NC0510134294 Paris AFP in English 1313 GMT 5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nicosia, Oct 5 (AFP)—Saudi authorities have tortured and maltreated political opponents under arrest as they continue to round-up Islamic militants, a London-based Islamic human rights group charged Wednesday [5 October].

In a statement received here, the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights (CDLR) said "at least five of these detainees have been hospitalised following physical maltreatment."

It added the political opponents held in Saudi jails were being "tortured and subjected to pressure to force them to retract their opinions."

Several teachers and religious leaders had been arrested in the past few days, the group added.

They included Muhammad al-Hadhif, a professor at King Saud University, and Nayif 'Abu-al-Khayl, a professor at al-Imam University in Riyadh.

Last month the CDLR said some 1,500 pro-reform activists had been arrested in a military-style crackdown by Saudi authorities.

The Saudi interior ministry responded by announcing 110 opponents had been rounded up, including two leading clerics—shaykhs Salman al-'Awdah and Safar al-Hawali—accused of holding "contacts with suspect groups based abroad."

The aim of the foreign groups was to "sow discord and anarchy in Saudi Arabia," the ministry said.

It was the first wave of arrests to be announced by Riyadh since 1979.

The CDLR was banned in Saudi Arabia just days after it was founded in May 1993. The group has mounted scathing attacks on the policies of the Saudi royal family.

AL-BILAD Criticizes Iranian Regime, Policy*LD0610080894 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0319 GMT 6 Oct 94*

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] [No dateline as received] [passage omitted]

AL-BILAD stresses that in today's world the Iranian regime represents an immature picture of a regime striving to drown its own people in dangerous problems against the whole world instead of saving its people from the stifling economic crises which were brought about by illogical policies aimed at interfering in the affairs of others and exporting ideas and extremism. The paper points out that the biggest mistake of Iranian policy is for its authors to imagine that current international circumstances permit them to adopt the methods of sudden

attacks, snatching gains, and exporting threats. It adds that bravery does not and will not be found in a country whose regime rejects the new world reality, but reality and wisdom require that each country find for itself a way to deal with this reality.

The paper concludes that Iran, as a state and as an entity of strength, can neither change the new world order nor remove someone from a position and occupy it. Iran's imagination would be exaggerated if it thinks it can extend its strength beyond its own borders. If a country's arm extends beyond its own border, the only possible fate of this arm will be amputation.

Iranian Attempts To 'Export Revolution' Seen

MM0310155094 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 Oct 94 p 9

[Editorial: "Extremists and the 'Iranian Connection.' Attempts to Export Revolution Will Bring Nothing But Harm to Those Making Them"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As expected, the Saudi Government's decision to take decisive measures against anyone threatening security and the regime has provoked a sharp reaction from foreign circles seeking to "export" troubles and seditions.

The strong tone used by some sectors of the Iranian media in their comment on arrests in Saudi Arabia shows that the Saudi Government's measure has struck where it hurts most.

Those who have studied modern forms of dispute are familiar with so-called "less severe operations." These are based on the use of a group of violent methods against an adversary without facing the threat of a real war. They include, of course, financing, training, and supporting certain elements in the target society in order to work to destroy it.

It is not a new method. It was used by the two parties to the Cold War. The former Soviet bloc managed to turn this practice into a perfect art, as it succeeded in practice—in the name of "solidarity among nations"—in planting a "fifth column" in every country on the planet. But the world rejected these implants, just as a healthy body fights bacterial attacks. Those seeking to "export the revolution" became bankrupt, and in the end the forces of freedom and reason invaded the cradle of the "revolution" itself.

Those studying conditions in Iran today know that the country is still witnessing a conflict between the state and the revolution. And that the interests of the two do not meet, except in a few cases, but in other cases these interests are in conflict.

As a Muslim country and a major regional state, Iran does not need new conflicts with any of its neighbors, in particular Saudi Arabia. Actually any fair person can come out with a long list of common interests, some of which are vital.

Thus the attempt to arouse troubles in other countries conflicts with Iranian national interests. Because it leads not only to squandering resources, but also to imposing isolation on Iran.

As a revolutionary country, Iran has to devote time, resources, and energies to supporting groups that have the same ideology in the other countries. It believes that the occurrence of any troubles in any other country is a consolidation of the line the mullahs' leadership has pursued since 1979.

As long as Iran still has not resolved its internal contradictions, its behavior should remain under a close and stern watch, and what its representatives say should be taken seriously.

Of course, Iran is not the first country in the Middle East to suffer from the "megalomania" that radical policies generate. We saw other countries trying to "export" their own version of revolution. And everyone knows what happened to these countries.

After words are uttered and actions are carried out, the important thing in politics is not who presents more sensational slogans or who shouts loudest. Politics is the art of securing a dignified life for the people and mobilizing their best energies and talents to serve their prosperity as individuals and the progress and prosperity of society as a whole.

Saudi society is strong and self-confident. It derives its strength from its deep commitment to Islam. As for its self-confidence, it is the fruit of years of successful economic and social development.

On the other hand, those aspiring to "export" their model have driven their economy into crisis, their society into fragmentation, and their political system into the din of difficult internal contradictions.

The attempts to obstruct the development process in the Kingdom are rejected by Saudi Arabia—people and government. The nets of the Cold War brought nothing except harm for the Soviet Union. So will those seeking to "export the revolution" learn this lesson?

Leadership Sets 10 Oct Deadline on Sanctions*JN0610122494 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT
6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 6 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has chaired a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. At the end of the meeting, an official spokesman made the following statement to the Iraqi News Agency:

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf and Lieutenant General Dr. 'Amir Rashid, director of the Military Industrialization Organization, have informed the RCC and the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party of the results of their meeting with Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN Security Council Special Commission.

After examining what has been presented, the RCC and the Iraq Command found that their previous conclusions were correct. Despite all that Iraq has done to implement what has been asked of it and all that it has sacrificed in terms of its property and scientific and practical aspirations, those who harbor bad intentions—particularly the U.S. Administration, assisted by Chairman of the Special Commission Ekeus, who gives it the required cover—insist on continuing to harm Iraq. This administration and those who help it, including the regimes in the region—particularly the rulers of Kuwait—are bent on prolonging the blockade as long as possible in order to kill the largest possible number of Iraqis through the policy of starvation and deprivation, including depriving the mujahid Iraqi people of medicine and the basic requirements for life and human rights.

In light of these facts, the leadership in Iraq, in accordance with its constitutional and moral responsibilities, has no option but to prepare a new position that will—after relying on God, the fair and almighty—straighten out matters and free the Iraqi people of the ordeal that has been imposed on them.

Despite the fact that the entire situation is clear in light of what we have just mentioned very briefly; and despite our lack of confidence in dealing with Special Commission Chairman Ekeus and our lack of confidence in certain UN Security Council members, as a result of the bitter experiences we have had in dealing with them; and so that no one will have the chance to fabricate lies, we will wait until 10 October 1994, and then everyone will bear responsibility for their own position. God is great. Damned be the lowly.

Long-Term Monitoring Begun on 'Temporary Basis'*JN0610112894 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] In an urgent report from Baghdad, Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN commission

charged with Iraq's disarmament, today stated that a mechanism for long-term monitoring of Iraq's armament capabilities has been started on a temporary basis.

Before leaving Baghdad for New York, via Bahrain, Ekeus said: We are currently testing this mechanism. After two days, we will announce the start of operation on a permanent basis.

UN Official Accused of Procrastinating on Sanctions*JN0510112894 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT
5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—A million Iraqis have thus far succumbed to the iniquitous embargo imposed by the U.S. Administration through the UN Security Council, AL-JUMHURIYAH writes. And that does not count the thousands who were martyred during the treacherous imperialist-Zionist 30-state aggression that was mounted under the umbrella of the so-called United Nations organization.

In an editorial that reads something like a dialogue with Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN Special Commission, the paper notes that the 1 million Iraqi victims is four times the entire population of Kuwait and outnumbers the casualties of most of the nations that joined World War II.

This number of martyrs and victims could have been cut to no more than 250,000 had we rejected the Security Council resolutions and the military confrontation gone on. Had the war dragged on, the United States would have held back, not out of a fondness for peace and respect for international law, but because it is incapable of fighting protracted and comprehensive wars. The United States withdrew from Somalia after 18 American soldiers were killed and, before that, it quit Lebanon during the Reagan Presidency.

The paper noted that, by any standard, the killing of 1 million people is a crime against humanity that amounts to internationally-banned genocide—at a time when war criminals in North America and Europe are still being tracked down.

In its dialogue with Mr. Ekeus, the paper said that 1 million human beings works out to a quarter million people a year, and, assuming the criminal withholding of medicine and food continues and the sanctions remain in place, the number is likely to rise.

There is a growing public realization in Iraq that there is a grand American plot to use the sanctions and the United Nations as an instrument to liquidate millions of Iraqis. The public feeling is that, no matter what concessions the Iraqi Government makes or conditions it meets, the blood-thirsty American vampire will pursue its murderous plot.

You, Mr. Ekeus, have awakened in us the instinct of survival. Dragging your feet on lifting the sanctions and

pursuing the tactic of requiring new conditions for their removal has led the Iraqis, along with hundreds of millions of Arabs and Muslims, to believe that you are sowing death and lulling the Iraqis with promises that you will end sanctions, which we know you will not do of your own accord but only against your will.

The paper draws Mr. Ekeus' attention to a psychological fact about man in times of crisis; namely, that the instinct of survival drives a human being to break loose from a state of inertia. A man may have reconciled himself to a situation due to circumstances outside of his control, but in a crisis he will embark upon even the biggest act of defiance and adventure to break the shackles and destroy the source of danger. When one realizes that death is one's inexorable fate, there remains nothing to deter one from taking the most risky steps to influence the course of events.

The paper asks: What, then, Mr. Ekeus, will the reaction be of 20 million people of whom almost 250,000 die every year thanks to sanctions that they are now convinced the United States wants to retain—never mind the concessions Iraq makes or its adherence to UN resolutions? Didn't you recognize, Mr. Ambassador, as one who is supposed to be particularly attentive to the meaning of words, the significance of the recent American statement that the United States will not remove the sanctions regime—not even if Iraq recognizes Kuwait and its boundaries? The paper indicated that one can only infer that Bill Clinton's administration is executing a criminal plot to destroy the pillars of the Iraqi state and kill millions of Iraqis in an even more gruesome manner than Yugoslavia.

Continuing the dialogue, the paper put this question to the UN official: Are you, Mr. Ekeus, a knowing party to a plot to annihilate the Iraqis by changing your positions and failing to honor your promise in your capacity as chairman of the Special Commission?

The paper recalled Ekeus' past promises as follows: In Paragraph 30 of the report dated 17 December 1992 about the implementation of continuous monitoring you said that the ban on the import of basic goods and products originating in Iraq and Iraqi-related financial transactions will be revoked when certain conditions in Section C of Resolution 687 issued in 1991 are met.

In Section 32 of the same report, you explained these conditions and said, literally: The following are the main areas that require measures to be taken before the Special Commission can inform the Security Council that Iraq is essentially meeting its obligations. These obligations, as they appeared in the report, were Iraq's agreement to and implementation of all the Special Commission's privileges and immunities.

In Paragraph 32 of the same report, you acknowledge clearly that the Special Commission, which you chair, will be the one—rather than Council members—to decide whether Iraq has essentially met its obligations.

In the report dated 21 June 1993, you reiterated that Iraq would have to meet the same obligations in order for the sanctions to be ended. It thus becomes absolutely clear from the two reports of December 1992, and June 1993 that preparations for implementing the monitoring plan were proceeding in full swing and in a positive manner.

In the Special Commission's report dated 21 December 1993, it was clear that the commission spelled out to Iraq what would follow the continuous monitoring and investigation in accordance with Resolution 715. It also seemed that Iraq had accepted most of the procedures to be followed. Iraq's main apprehensions related to the manner in which the rights and privileges of the commission concerning intrusion would be carried out. In other words, monitoring in the future would have to be carried out so that the Iraqi leadership's safety would not be compromised, Iraq's sovereignty would not be violated, and its economic and technological development would not be hampered.

In accordance with this clear paragraph, the paper went on, there is no doubt that there remains nothing to be done except to check things out. The paper adds that inspection began in 1992 in line with Paragraph 34 of your report, and that, for Iraq to be considered essentially committed to the terms of monitoring, it must cooperate in the implementation of the future monitoring plan as it appears in Resolution 715 and that this marked the beginning of monitoring.

AL-JUMHURIYAH said that the Special Commission clearly recognized Iraq's meeting of its obligations in the joint report submitted to the Security Council on 16 September 1993. It said: The Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency intend to complete the stage of defining its operations in accordance with Resolution 687 of 1991. This will very likely take place before the end of December 1993. It remains then to begin continuous monitoring and checking as required by Paragraphs 20 and 13 of Resolution 687 and spelled out in Resolution 715. The Iraqi delegation has been informed that this may be possible if the necessary cooperation is forthcoming, within six months, after comprehensive notifications are received from Iraq concerning all the facilities to which the provisions of the plans apply.

The report indicated that Ekeus has changed the dates to start the monitoring more than once since 1993. The monitoring should have started in February and ended in July. It was rescheduled to begin in March and end in August, and was again rescheduled to begin in August, and was last rescheduled to begin in September, but it never officially began on that date.

Changing the starting dates for the monitoring was not merely an organizational action, but a political one, since each day's delay unjustifiably hurts the Iraqi people considerably.

The paper indicated that, strikingly, Ekeus went back on a previous statement that the Special Commission is the

party responsible for deciding whether Iraq has honored its obligations. He now says he is a technician and executor who has no power to decide on such political issues as whether Iraq has met its obligations or not. It was also noted that terms are now being used in conflict with the meaning of past reports, like bypassing the fact that the essential measures for implementing the monitoring have been completed, now that Iraq has met all its commitments. One of these terms is "the temporary operation" of the monitoring system.

The paper indicated that in the last round of talks with the Iraqi technical team now in New York, we saw the Special Commission's demands echo precisely those of the United States. You have concentrated on the importance of the test period for the monitoring system, despite the fact that the elements of the system have been tested and are operating inside Iraq.

We cannot but infer that this insistence on a test period is only a political game calculated to extend the sanctions, since this can be justified on neither legal nor technical grounds. Accordingly, we cannot but tell your excellency the truth that must be said; namely, that you are playing the role of an official cover for the operation of killing a quarter of a million Iraqis per year.

The paper emphasized the need for Mr. Ekeus to submit a clear-cut report saying that Iraq has met all its obligations in full, in accordance with Paragraphs 8 to 13 of Resolutions 687, and to propose the lifting of the ban on the export of Iraqi goods. Otherwise, Ekeus is nothing more than a technocrat used to promote American political ends.

Addressing Mr. Ekeus, AL-JUMHURIYAH said: I wish Your Excellency would realize that what we are saying comes from men who have no fear of death and who have proven through bitter experience—by responding to American aggression in a manner befitting human dignity, self-respect, and a concern for the future—that we are not repeating empty words that have no force. We nationalized oil and put an end to the Western-British control over our resources. We stood our ground against the fiercest and filthiest military aggression in history, which was mounted by the United States and its allies against us. I also wish that you would remember that we defeated the most dangerous wave in the history of the region—the Khomeynism that had sought to invade Iraq.

In its dialogue with Ekeus, AL-JUMHURIYAH went on to say: Thus, when we say that we will not remain silent about the crime of mass murder against Iraqi people and that your procrastination and games have been exposed and have tested our patience, in effect, we are drawing your attention to the fact that you are now at a crossroads. Either you utter the truth and dissociate yourself from the crime of liquidating millions of people, or remove the veil of the Scandinavian meekness masking your face and set the name of the United Nations aside and blurt it out: I work for the U.S. Department of State.

Once again, let us remind you that the murder of 1 million Iraqis is a capital crime that will shake thrones, gore bellies, and move armies of rejection, revolution, and revenge.

Beilin on Talks With Algeria, Syrian Gestures

TA0510200294

[FBIS Editorial Report] Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 5 October reports that "talks between Israel and Algeria on the opening of an Israeli interests office in Algiers are at an advanced stage."

Political correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that in addition to what was disclosed by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in his address to the Knesset on 3 October, Israel and Syria reached other agreements in the "secret channel of talks" conducted by the ambassadors of both countries in Washington. Sukenik notes that "in this channel, it was apparently agreed—at least the Americans and the Syrians agreed, with Israel's knowledge—that the Syrians will make a series of gestures in the next few days. We do not yet know the nature of these gestures, except for one: As a signal to Israeli public opinion that the Syrians are indeed willing to make peace, Israeli journalists will be allowed to attend a news conference with the Syrian foreign minister in Washington."

In a live interview in the studio by moderator Hayim Yavin and Sukenik, Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin is asked to confirm the aforementioned reports.

Referring to the Algerian issue, Beilin replies: "I would not say that we are currently engaged in any specific negotiations with Algeria about the opening of an interests office. As part of the multilateral talks, however, we have established bilateral contacts with many countries in the Persian Gulf and in North Africa. For example, only a few days ago, Israeli, Algerian, Egyptian, and other officers met for the first time in Canada in the framework of the multilateral talks on arms control. We take advantage of these international forums to raise with any element with which we are in contact the possibility of enhancing relations on whatever diplomatic level."

Commenting on the Syrian gestures, the deputy foreign minister says: "This is an ongoing process in which we have definitely been demanding public diplomacy on the part of the Syrians. Some steps have been taken, including President al-Asad's appearance before the Syrian parliament and the billboards put up around Damascus. I hope we will witness similar steps in the future as well. I definitely believe that if the Syrians accept Israeli journalists—not just those bearing foreign passports or hiding their identity—to cover events in Syria, that will be a wise step on their part."

Finance Minister: Peace With Syria Within Months

BR0510133094 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 4 Oct 94 p 7

[Report by Georgina Higuera: "Israeli Finance Minister Says That Peace With Syria is a 'Question of Months'"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpts] Madrid—Israeli Finance Minister Avraham Baiga Shohat said yesterday in Madrid that the "agreement with Syria is a question of months rather than years." Shohat, who was in Spain for the annual assembly of the IMF and the World Bank, stated: "We are living in a new era of relations between the Arab world and Israel, and this includes the peace process with Syria." [passage omitted]

At a breakfast with a limited number of journalists, the Israeli finance minister said yesterday in Madrid that there had been an "enormous" change in the attitude of the Syrian president. This 57-year-old native of Tel Aviv and member of the Labor Party was mayor of Arad for 22 years before embarking on a meteoric career that took him to the very top of Israeli politics. He said he was convinced that once a framework agreement had been concluded with Syria, most of the population would vote for peace in exchange for losing the Golan Heights: "The Israeli people are currently divided, but if a referendum is held after the signing of a framework agreement, most will vote in favor of continuing the peace process. Everyone in Israel is convinced that Damascus holds the key to peace."

Shohat said he was confident of the control exerted by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat over the Islamic resistance movement, Hamas: "There is a direct link between Hamas and the economic crisis in Palestine. If 'Arafat can manage to deal with the economic situation, he will control Hamas." The man who managed in just two years in the Israeli government to reduce unemployment by 4 percent—from 11.5 percent to the current 7.5 percent—said that 'Arafat's greatest challenge is tackling unemployment and the creation of an infrastructure that could help Autonomous Palestine make progress.

In this area, he stated that Israel is most concerned that the international community should provide 'Arafat with all the money he was promised: "If the Palestinian economy collapsed, then the Autonomy would collapse which would have indescribable consequences for Israel." He considered that the delays were due to a "lack of transparency" on the part of the Palestinian administration, but this problem was being resolved and international aid "will soon start to arrive."

Shohat denied that there had been any change in the ban on the expansion of the Jewish settlements in the occupied territories invaded in the 1967 war, but he said that the government "cannot prevent the settlers from building in the settlements without public funding." He added: "In any event, the government is contemplating carrying out an investigation into the building plans in the Alfei Men settlement" (in the north of the West Bank) where the colonists are planning on building 1,000 new apartments.

According to the finance minister, the decision adopted last week by the six oil monarchies of the Gulf to lift their boycott on companies working with Israel "is a very important step in this new era of relations between Israel and the Arab world."

Shohat, who plans to meet with his Spanish counterpart Pedro Solbes, also expressed his confidence in the increase in trade between Spain and Israel: "The interest of both countries lies in increasing the volume of trade from business through to tourism and the creation of mixed companies in both countries and third countries."

Likud Submits No-Confidence Motion on Rabin Policy

TA0510132894 *Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Likud has submitted a motion of no confidence in the government over what it terms the serious implications of the Rabin government's irresponsible policy. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the motion will be discussed next Monday [10 October], together with the no-confidence motion submitted by Tzomet.

Likud Knesset Member David Levi says that the formula whereby the depth of peace will be tantamount to the depth of withdrawal has brought Israel to the brink of capitulation to all of President al-Asad's dictates.

Press Editorials React to Rabin Knesset Address

TA0410151094

[FBIS Editorial Report] Israeli newspapers on 4 October feature headline reports on Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's address to the opening of the winter session of the Knesset and carry editorials and commentaries on the speech.

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English publishes on page 6 under the heading "Opening the Debate" an 800-word editorial that says that both Rabin and opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu "presented their known positions with dignity and aplomb, and they both obviously pleased their supporters." The editorial says: "Only a perceived transformation in Arab attitudes can justify the drastic change in Rabin's own approach to relinquishing territory." "The fateful question Israel must confront is whether these changes are fundamental enough to warrant the risks the government is taking." The editorial goes on to say that while "is it not difficult to accept that the Gulf states or Tunisia and Morocco wish to do business with Israel," "far less acceptable is the notion that Hafiz al-Asad, one of the world's most ruthless and treacherous dictators, has fundamentally changed." The article says that what Israelis want to know is "that sacrificing vital strategic assets in the face of the unprecedented arms buildup in Syria, Iran, and Libya (and soon in Iraq) is not suicidal." The editorial concludes by saying that "for the nation to be able to participate in this debate a popular vote on the government's policies is essential. The sooner the better."

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew carries on page A1 under the headline "The Sentence That Was Not Uttered" a 600-word commentary by Aluf Ben who

writes that "Rabin views peace with Syria as the key to a comprehensive peace, to the possibility of 'putting an end to all wars.' He is preparing the public for a national referendum in which it will be called on to give up the Golan in return for peace." Ben writes that "the important sentence in Rabin's speech was the unsaid sentence. The prime minister did not repeat the claim he made in the Labor faction that he has not committed himself to a full withdrawal from the Golan. Rabin yesterday ignored the issue of a full withdrawal and chose to speak about 'lack of agreement' between Israel and Syria on the location of the peace border, thereby strengthening the opposition's claims, which are preparing public opinion for Rabin by virtue of its claim that the government is ready to carry out a full withdrawal from the Golan." [sentence as published]

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew carries on page 5 under the title "A Hypocritical Proposal" a 350-word editorial by Yosef Lapid who writes that Prime Minister Rabin's promise to hold a national referendum on a Golan withdrawal "raises a sensitive question about the Arab vote." "If we assume that the Jewish public is divided on the Golan issue, then the Arab minority's votes will be decisive on a fateful question of the existence of the State of Israel." Lapid says that "while no intelligent person can agree to take the right to vote away from the Arab minority," the only way "to overcome the contradiction is to decide that a special majority is needed to approve the peace agreement with Syria."

Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew publishes on pages 1 and 17 under the heading "He is Fed Up" a 700-word commentary by Nahum Barnea, who writes that "knowledgeable sources promised us a Churchill-style speech: lots of authority, lots of leadership, a fatherly caress for those who will pay the price for peace, an encouraging call to those who will benefit from it. Rabin's Knesset speech included all those things."

Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew carries on page 1 an 800-word editorial entitled "A Withdrawal Speech" signed by M.A., which says: "We will not be wrong if we say that most of the people refuse to accept the prime minister's good advice that we should prefer to support the chance for peace, despite the risks, which have not passed and which continue to threaten the peace and security of the State of Israel. That is precisely the difference between the speech of a prime minister who ignores the risks in order to give peace a chance and those—and there are many of them—who believe that we must not gamble on the chance while the dangers are so striking. As for now, the people want the Golan. They want peace but reject withdrawal, because the Golan is ours and it is also most vital to our security and our future in a region in which Islamic fundamentalism is expanding."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew publishes on page 9 a 700-word editorial entitled "An Important Achievement for Rabin," which says that the Knesset's

vote in support of Rabin's address "is an important achievement for the prime minister." The editorial goes on to warn that "the Syrians, have apparently not learned anything, not even from the political developments taking place before our very eyes—in the negotiations with the Palestinians, and especially with Jordan. They apparently also do not understand the impact of Israeli public opinion."

Shahal Condemns Handling of Dead Sea Canal Project

TA0510101094 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Oct 94, p 8

[Report by Liat Collins]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpts] Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday criticized the government's handling of the newly revived Dead Sea Canal project.

He called for one body to deal with the project and submit recommendations on a purely professional basis, without political considerations. [passage omitted]

Shahal said the Dead Sea Canal had returned to the agenda due to the political changes which made it possible and because it is the only project which can supply desalinated water in quantities to meet the needs of Jordanians, Palestinians, and Israel at a reasonable price.

He noted, however, that Israel, which has access to two coasts, does not need the canal or pipeline as much as Jordan.

Shahal also said the Gulf states have shown "great interest" in using the oil ports at Ashqelon, Haifa, and Elat. The Gulf states are also interested in storing oil here, and Israel's Oil Services Company is dealing with the requests, he said.

The lifting of the secondary boycott and the progress in relations with Qatar have helped bring the possibility of natural gas imports from there much closer.

The gas would primarily be used to produce electricity and serve as an additional supply to Egyptian gas.

There have been no direct contacts with the Saudi Arabian government on oil imports, but private businessmen in Jordan have raised the possibility, Shahal said.

He said the ministry is continuing to investigate alternative sources of energy, including solar, oil shale, and wind power. The ministry is not considering nuclear energy at this stage, he said.

Shahal said he opposed Environment Minister Yosi Sarid's project for large national landfills which do not include the option of refuse combustion as an energy source.

18 West Bank Settlers Receive Confinement Orders

TA0510174094 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Major General Ilan Biran, the commander of the Central Command, this evening issued confinement orders to 18 inhabitants of Qiryat Arba', Hebron, and other settlements. Our correspondent Gil Litman has learned that the orders ban the 18 settlers from approaching the vicinity of the Cave of the Patriarchs and other areas in the territories in the next three months.

Reacting to the orders, a spokesman for the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza told our correspondent that it is inconceivable that administrative measures should replace the justice and legal system and impose civil limitations that violate human rights. The council asked Gen. Biran to reconsider his decision.

Crown Prince Views Washington Meeting, Negotiations

JN0510191394 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Oct 94

[Interview with Crown Prince Hasan by unidentified Paris Radio l'Orient correspondent in New York on 4 October—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent] Your Highness, has the Washington summit yesterday removed the differences between Jordan and Israel?

[Hasan] The aim of the tripartite meeting in Washington was not to talk about bilateral Israeli-Jordanian issues in terms of boundary, water, and security. The tripartite summit was aimed at completing the development and economic visions, such as the free trade zone, for example, or the expansion of investment prospects in the region, through which the United States is eager to build confidence that the upcoming peace will give everyone a chance to participate, and that this year, 1994, will be the threshold of peace, thus allowing those visions to bear fruit. Nonetheless, work is continuing seriously within bilateral negotiations. Of course, we are still cautiously optimistic that there is a hope that there will be a relaxation over the existing controversial points, which constitute the heart of discussions and negotiations.

[Correspondent] But there are substantial problems concerning borders and water?

[Hasan] The substantial issues, naturally, are executive issues of immense importance. The Jordanian side is clear regarding Jordanian sovereignty and basic issues. I would like to stress here that the current discussions actually revolve around how to move from routine negotiations within the sessions that have been held to political relaxation in terms of comprehensiveness. I believe that the meeting between his majesty the king and the Israeli prime minister in al-'Aqabah was a clear, candid, and serious meeting. As the Israeli foreign minister said before President Clinton, political meetings are not merely opportunities for photographs and public appearances, but also an opportunity for discussion. I believe that this current delicate phase of discussions is not void of seriousness.

[Correspondent] Will a peace treaty be signed before the end of this year, as President Clinton said yesterday?

[Hasan] As I said, I believe that 1994 can be the threshold of peace, but it is unrealistic to explicitly or implicitly talk about signing dates. But I am still cautiously optimistic that this year will be the threshold of peace, on condition that we recall that the agreements that were signed in the past were shelved one week after their signing. What matters is for those agreements to be able to convince everybody that they have contributed to peacemaking and that the majority of people will reap the fruits of peace, for they deserve peace and are looking forward to a just peace built on honesty and fairness in our anguished region.

[Correspondent] Your Highness, why did Jordan depart from Arab coordination and did not wait for the Lebanese and Syrian tracks even though it always called for a comprehensive solution? Were there fears of an actual conclusion of a Palestinian-Israeli agreement at the expense of Jordan? Did this prompt Jordan to be hasty?

[Hasan] I do not think that Jordan has departed from coordination. Neither do I think the other tracks have departed from coordination. However, I believe that the nature of this coordination from the beginning was not built on a joint vision of a method of negotiations. Perhaps the reason for this is that the concerned countries are going through such an exercise for the first time in their lives. There is nothing wrong with that. However, I think that in the end, the Arab parties are totally clear on the fact that there can be no peace in our region without involving all the parties concerned. I cannot talk on behalf of the others, but I think that the current efforts are serious. I want to add a natural warning note that world interest in the Middle East region will not last forever. I believe that 1994 is a very important year in terms of realizing peace in our region.

[Correspondent] However, there is no doubt that Jordan's stand did weaken the Lebanese and Syrian negotiating tracks?

[Hasan] I do not think I can agree with you that the Jordanian stand has weakened anyone else's stand. On the contrary, I believe what is important is that Jordan's moves score clear accomplishments that can become a model for the demands on the other tracks and for a comprehensive accomplishment along the same lines.

[Correspondent] It is clear that relations between Jordan and the Palestinians are not good nowadays because of the issue of religious jurisdiction. Is there any mediation to diffuse this dispute? Don't you think that it is premature to discuss the Jerusalem issue since no progress has been achieved?

[Hasan] As I said before the UN General Assembly, Jordan now supports Palestinian efforts, whether in terms of promoting and strengthening self-rule or reaching the final stages of negotiations with the Israeli side. As you know, everyone recognizes and supports the Palestinian political right to the occupied territories, including occupied Jerusalem. Jordan also supports political and administrative negotiations through the PLO, the Palestinians' representative.

However, when we talk about moral or religious jurisdiction, we are necessarily talking about the need to involve all those who believe in God within the walls of the sacred city before the end of this century and before celebrating 2,000 years since the birth of Christ. These celebrations should not be confined only to some churches and synagogues. Indeed, there should be a frank and clear call on the Islamic Sunni and Shiite sects to shoulder their responsibility in defining what

Jerusalem means to them and how we should deal with the people of the sacred city.

Al-'Anani on Husayn-Rabin Meetings, Jerusalem

NC0610104294 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610 GMT 6 Oct 94

[Telephone interview with Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, minister of information and a member of the Jordanian delegation currently in New York, by Shihatah Abu-al-Majd, in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Abu-al-Majd] Jordanian Crown Prince al-Hasan's meeting with Shim'on Peres followed a summit conference between King Husayn and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Before this summit there was talk of a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel and that these meetings were designed to pave the way for such a treaty.

As a member of the Jordanian delegation, what was the subject of discussion and the most important outcome of this meeting from your point of view?

[Al-'Anani] First, I must note that there are two basic points that should be clarified. The first is that there are bilateral talks going on between Jordan and Israel to negotiate basic issues on the Jordanian-Israeli agenda that was signed in September last year. Last week's meetings between King Husayn and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin are part of these bilateral negotiations.

What took place in Washington were tripartite meetings. Agreement was reached in October last year to form a tripartite committee when Prince al-Hasan met Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in the White House in the presence of U.S. President Bill Clinton. The Washington meeting two or three days ago was a tripartite meeting comprising President Clinton, Prince al-Hasan, and the Israeli foreign minister. The main economic issues concerning the region's future after the peace process is completed were discussed and agreed upon in this meeting.

Jordan not only focuses on outstanding bilateral basic issues between Jordan and Israel, such as land and water issues, but also concerns itself with the economic future of this relationship once peace is achieved. There are major projects concerning the region that must be implemented...

[Abu-al-Majd, interrupting] What are the most important of these projects?

[Al-'Anani] A great project called the development of the Jordan Valley, because most of Jordan's natural resources are along the border with Israel, the longest Arab border with Israel. Therefore there should be investment in this area, whether by opening a canal between the Red Sea and the Dead Sea or tourist and

industrial projects in the Dead Sea area, where potash, magnesium, and bromide salts exist. Discussion is under way on opening a new crossing between Jordan and Israel in the north at a place called the al-Shaykh Husayn Bridge. And discussion is under way on projects in which there should be international participation, represented by the United States, to finance them.

Discussion also dealt with the Casablanca economic summit, due to be held late October, early November. [passage omitted]

[Abu-al-Majd] Some people talk about the importance of Arab coordination at this stage, especially because efforts are now concentrated on activating the Syrian-Israeli track. Is there coordination between you and the Syrians and the Lebanese to achieve some kind of balance on the progress on various tracks and to prevent cracks in the Arab coordination?

[Al-'Anani] First, it should be stressed that Jordan has been most eager to maintain clear Arab coordination. Coordination should not be limited to particular occasions; it is required at all times. We must acknowledge that coordination is not at the desired level.

As for Jordan and negotiations on the Jordanian track, Jordan knows of the aspect that progress on the Jordanian track affects other Arab tracks. We know that the Syrian-Israeli track is continuing but do not know and cannot tell when there will be a breakthrough in it. We are certain that the intense diplomatic action concerning the Syrian track must eventually achieve something.

It should be affirmed here that a comprehensive peace is no longer an issue for discussion as everyone believes that a comprehensive peace is the only possible and viable peace and there will be no peaceful solution if peace is not comprehensive. If peace is not comprehensive there will be no solution, because such a situation will involve undermining elements. As for Arab coordination and cooperation, I believe it is required in the post-peace era more than before or during the peace process.

[Abu-al-Majd] Have you reached a solution with the Palestinians on the Jerusalem problem?

[Al-'Anani] After the recent visits by some Palestinian officials, I believe the Jerusalem issue has become less controversial, especially after the Jordanian Cabinet adopted a resolution delegating tasks concerning religious sites to the Palestinian National Authority, Jerusalem city excepted. We must remember that the Jerusalem issue is different and we cannot speak about Jerusalem's area as a geographic area like the rest of the territories. The first thing the Israelis did after 1967 was to annex Jerusalem to Israel by a unilateral decision, which shows that they attach a special importance to Jerusalem. The situation affects Muslims and Christians.

Jordan does not seek to administer these territories and has no political ambitions toward the brothers in the

PLO. But Jerusalem has a special status and we have experience with some radical Israeli quarters that wanted to use Israeli courts to seize the holy sites, most notably the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, on the pretext that they are built on the site of the Israeli Temple Mount.

Spokesman Comments on Joint Projects With Israel

JN0610092294 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
06 Oct 94 pp 1, 7

[Report by correspondent P.V. Vivekanand]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Amman—Jordan has not agreed to any Israeli proposals to build joint projects in "disputed" territory as a means to sidestep problems over patches of territory in their ongoing work on determining borders, spokesman Marwan Mu'ashshir said Wednesday [5 October].

Dr. Mu'ashshir was commenting on a report carried by the JERUSALEM POST that said Jordan and Israel were discussing a plan for "an innovative recreation and tourism complex" near an abandoned pre-1948 hydro-electric project in the north.

The land is Jordanian but the ownership belongs to the Palestine Electric Company, popularly known then as Rottenberg, named after Pinhas Rottenberg, who was given the power concession by the Jewish Agency in the 1930s.

"What is important to Jordan is the return of Jordanian land and the demarcation of borders," Dr. Mu'ashshir told the JORDAN TIMES. "The Israelis have been suggesting that projects could be built in the border area not only in the north but also in the south as a means to settle the problem, but Jordan has not agreed to any such proposals," he added.

According to Israeli media reports, the Jewish state is also suggesting "leasing" of some of the land where Israelis have developed agricultural farms or the exchange of an equal size of land elsewhere to avoid fully meeting Jordan's demand for the return of its territory.

Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali this week said that Jordan would not give up "an inch of its territory" and insisted on Israeli recognition of the Kingdom's territorial rights in full.

However, he left the door open for discussions on the Israeli proposals but only after the border demarcation has been completed.

"Once we establish these (border) lines and then if they want to discuss any other matters of rectification here or there, we are not going to be that hard; we are going to listen to them," he said.

Dr. al-Majali also disclosed that Israel had "accepted and admitted" that Jordan had sovereignty over the

Rottenberg plot, which lies near the convergence of the rivers Jordan and al-Yarmuk.

Dr. Mu'ashshir said Jordanian and Israeli experts were engaged in a "continuous process" of surveying and related studies as part of determining the borders. [passage omitted]

Pharmacists Union Prohibits Dealings With Israel

JN0410180394 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic 3 Oct 94 p 1

[Statement issued by the Pharmacists Union Council; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Realizing the importance of resisting normalization with the Zionist enemy on all levels, the Union announces its firm refusal to recognize the Zionist entity and all forms of normalization with it in the political, social, economic, and cultural fields. In the field of medicine, the Union has made the following decisions:

1. It is categorically prohibited to represent agencies for medicine and any other medical materials of Israeli origin.
2. Direct contacts with Israeli pharmacists or medicine producers shall be prohibited, whether individually or collectively. Pharmacists are prevented from dealing with the enemy.
3. Attendance of conferences, symposiums, and lectures which are held inside the occupied territories, and which are supervised or attended by the Zionist enemy, shall be prohibited.
4. Invitations to any lecturer, pharmacist, or pharmaceutical or medical institutions cooperating with Israel to participate in conferences or symposiums held in Jordan shall be prohibited.
5. Jordanian drug stores which represent any agency for Israeli medicine or any other medical materials of Israeli origin shall be boycotted.
6. Israeli medicines shall be boycotted and shall not be put in pharmacies so that they will not be sold to the people.
7. The Union will take the necessary disciplinary measures against all those who violate these decisions and instructions.

U.S. Ambassador Said To Spark 'Customs Battle'

JN0610111694 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU in Arabic
6 Oct 94 p 2

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The lines of the Finance Ministry seem to be holding in the two-month-old "customs" battle the U.S. ambassador in Amman touched off in an attempt to pressure our finance authorities to reduce the customs tariffs imposed on U.S. cars. He

wants American cars to be treated, in terms of customs, according to the same standards and traditions established for German, Japanese, and other imported cars. According to official statements issued by the Finance Ministry, reducing customs tariffs on U.S. cars is out of question now or in the future since such a reduction would hurt the state coffers by reducing revenues if the ministry accepts his "excellency's" request. Such a step would also affect the traffic flow and the environment, which would be harmed by the additional congestion created by U.S. cars and by the increase in emissions of carbon dioxide into the skies of Amman.

Despite the official denial, which is supported by tangible evidence on the first line of defense of our economic interests, the military communiques [balaghat 'askariyah] issued by the embassy of the friendly state indicate the opposite and confirm that there has been a retreat to the second line of defense. This was demonstrated by the ministry's decision to agree in principle to calculate the customs tariffs on the basis of the value of U.S. cars and not by its engine capacity, as was the case in the past. According to the U.S. communique, this decision came after it was proved to the ministry that the fuel consumption of new models of U.S. cars is similar to that of Japanese cars. [passage omitted]

Shipping Agent Looks Toward Ending Inspections

JN0410213894 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
4 Oct 94 p 32

[Report by Hani al-Duwayk; all names as published]

[FBIS Translated Text] Amman—Tawfiq Qa'war, doyen of the shipping agents in Jordan, has said he hoped the time would come when the supervision and inspections carried out by Lloyds Register would end completely.

He said the departure of the last U.S. warship from the Straits of Tiran at the entrance of the Gulf of Aqaba was good news. Navigation toward the port of al-'Aqabah has returned to normal in terms of entry and exit, and there was no obstruction or delay, he noted.

In a statement to AL-DUSTUR, Qa'war said the supervision and inspections, which are carried out during the

customs clearance of goods, are proceeding normally without any obstacles at all. He explained that without lifting the blockade on Iraq and without the free shipping of goods to Iraq we will not see a noticeable increase in the port's activity. He added that immediately after naval inspections stopped, three maritime lines said they would serve the port again. These are the Jirbalk line, which transports various goods; the Hawal line; and the Roro line, which transports cars. The first two lines are Belgian while the third is Japanese.

He added: The union learned that other lines are reviewing the situation in order to resume serving al-'Aqabah. However, there is a large reduction in the quantity of goods offered on world markets for shipping to al-'Aqabah due to the commercial depression prevailing in the Jordanian markets. On the other hand, Qa'war said it was recently noted that shipping costs from most areas began to gradually decrease.

Iraq Asks Envoy in Amman To Halt Aid to Iraqis

JN0310115894 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic 3 Oct 94 p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] The Iraqi Government has asked its ambassador in Amman to urge Iraqi families in Jordan to return to Iraq and to convince Christian charity circles to stop taking care of these families.

This request came in a memorandum the Iraqi minister of awqaf and religious affairs sent to the Iraqi ambassador to Jordan, asking him to contact Reverend Musa 'Adili and request that he stop extending aid to these families and urge them to return to their homeland.

In response to this request, Reverend 'Adili announced that his aid and support for Iraqi families will henceforth be confined to the needy families inside Iraq. He also said that this aid will double in response to appeals by the government and people.

Reverend 'Adili said that this aid is extended to about 30,000 families, in addition to the provision of medicine, the payment of hospital charges for emergency cases, and the opening of rehabilitation centers for young women.

It is worth noting that a number of international organizations are encouraging Iraqi Christians to immigrate to European countries and the United States.

Britain's Douglas Hogg Arrives From Syria*NC0610100994 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1300
GMT 5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Douglas Hogg, British minister of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, arrived overland in Lebanon from Syria today through the Syrian-Lebanese border point in al-'Aridah in north Lebanon. He was accompanied by a Syrian deputy foreign minister. Hogg was met at the border by British Ambassador in Lebanon Maeve Geraldine Fort, Anwar 'Aridah, the British consul in north Lebanon, and Hazza' al-Sharif, representative of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry's protocol department. The group went to the al-Shati' al-Fiddi Restaurant in Tripoli for lunch.

Hogg is expected to confer with Lebanese officials tomorrow.

Comments on Meeting With al-Hirawi*NC0610101594 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915
GMT 6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi today received Douglas Hogg, British minister of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, who was accompanied by acting Foreign Minister Marwan Hamadah and British Ambassador in Lebanon Maeve Geraldine Fort.

Hogg described his meeting with the president as friendly and said he appreciated bilateral relations. He said discussion dealt with the situation in the south and Lebanese detainees in Israeli jails. He promised to help release them through contacts by British humanitarian organizations.

The British official is now meeting Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri.

DFLP Reportedly Foils Israeli Commando Operation*NC0610063594 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0530
GMT 6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Extreme tension is prevailing in areas near the occupied border strip this morning due to continuing intermittent Israeli attacks last night. The National News Agency correspondent in Rashayya has reported that an Israeli bulldozer yesterday dismantled the earth fortifications on the borders of Abu Qamhah and (Zul).

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has announced that one of its groups thwarted a landing operation by Israeli commandos on the al-Barid coast. The DFLP said the commando unit rocketed the Palestinian Cultural Center, killing citizen Mahdi Husayn Abu-Tu'aymah. An Israeli warship was spotted cruising off the coast during the rocket attack.

Overnight Israeli Shelling Reported in South*NC0610075894 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in
Arabic 0630 GMT 6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Zionist attacks on southern areas continued overnight. Our correspondent sent us this report: The Zibqin forests were illuminated at 0100 today and at 0110, four 120mm shells originating from [placename indistinct] landed in the town of Sribbin. At about 0155 the occupation forces post in Tayr Harfa raked the outskirts of Majdal Zun with 12.7mm weapons, illuminating the area.

The outskirts of Majdal Zun came under attack with medium-caliber weapons from the Shihin position at 0400 today. [passage omitted]

Attack Carried Out Commemorating 'Massacre'*NC0610092794 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0900
GMT 6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] Commemorating the fourth anniversary of the al-Aqsa Mosque massacre, the 'Abbas al-Wazwaz Group of the Islamic Resistance detonated an explosive device as an Agent Lahd [South Lebanese Army, SLA] infantry patrol was passing on the Bint Jubayl road at 0900 today. Two members of the patrol were killed and the rest were wounded. The bodies of the dead are still at the scene.

Israeli Bombardment, Resistance Attacks Reported*NC0510175594 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630
GMT 5 Oct 94*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Israeli occupation troops bombarded the Litani River basin and the outskirts of Zawtar al-Sharqiyah and al-Gharbiyah with 155- and 120-mm caliber field artillery at 1745. The shelling reached Frun, al-Ghanduriyah, Burj Qallawiyah, Qabrikha, (Tamriyah), Majdal Silm, [name indistinct], and Tulin. The occupation artillery stationed in al-Qantarah and al-Tayyibah took part in the shelling.

The outskirts of the townships of Saydun, Birkah, and Kafr Falus earlier came under direct artillery fire from the opposite occupation positions. A number of 120-mm shells landed in the townships.

Security sources report that the men of the resistance have mounted two attacks against the 'Alman, al-Shumariyah, and al-Qantarah positions of the occupation and agent troops.

At 1515 today a group from the Amal Movement detonated an explosive device under an agent patrol along the Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir road. Two agents were killed and a number of others were wounded.

Israeli warplanes conducted mock raids over al-Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah, drawing anti-aircraft fire from the Lebanese Army.

In another development, reports from Rashayya say that an Israeli patrol removed ramparts from around the Israeli positions of Abu-Qamhah and Zaghlah this morning. The reasons are not yet known. Meanwhile, Jabal Bi'r al-Dahr was coming under machine-gun fire.

Security sources in the south have said that agent Antoine Lahd's militia [South Lebanese Army—SLA]

burned the home of citizen 'Ali Muhammad Isma'il 'Abdallah in the township of al-Khiyam and ordered him, his wife and children outside the occupied strip.

An SLA force of 20 members has arrested the official in charge of the so-called civilian administration in Kafr Hamam, Ibrahim Ramadan, and citizen 'Ali Kamil Khatun, a taxi driver operating between Kafr Hamam and Beirut. The two were taken to al-Khiyam prison.

Al-Shar' Arrives in Washington for Two-Day Visit

JN0510215594 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2115 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met with the chairman and members of the U.S. Congress Foreign Relations Committee [as heard] this afternoon, and explained to them Syria's position on the peace process and its developments and the means to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Al-Shar' answered questions posed by the Foreign Relations Committee members on several regional issues and Syrian-U.S. ties.

Al-Shar' arrived in Washington today on a two-day visit, during which he will be received by senior U.S. officials led by U.S. President Bill Clinton. He will also hold talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Furthermore, he will meet with the chairman and members of the U.S. Congress's Foreign Relations Committee [sentence as heard].

Al-Shar' had taken part in the meetings of the 49th session of the UN General Assembly and delivered Syria's speech before the assembly.

Party Leader Meets Vietnamese Communist Party Group

JN0410183794 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received a delegation from the Vietnamese Communist Party led by Comrade (Do Van Tai), vice chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Party's Central Committee.

Talks during the meeting revolved around ties of cooperation between the two parties and means to develop them to serve the interests of the two friendly peoples and countries and strengthen the peoples' common struggle for the sake of a world in which relations amongst its states are based on the principles of equality, equity, and respect for each nation's free choice of the course for its advancement; and a world in which all forms of hegemony, intervention, pressures, and aggression are absent.

The two sides exchanged views on the latest developments in the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Comrade al-Ahmar reviewed the developments in the regional peace process and the efforts exerted to make it realize its goals in establishing a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of implementing the resolutions of international legitimacy and returning Arab territory and usurped rights to their rightful owners. He stressed that Syria, under militant President Hafiz al-Asad, considers peace a strategic option and continues to do all it can to achieve a just and comprehensive peace.

Comrade al-Ahmar noted that the absences of tangible and genuine progress in the negotiations is due to Israeli attempts to divert the peace process from its basis and to deal with each Arab party individually to achieve Israel's interests and not the Arabs' interests.

For his part, Comrade (Van Tai) spoke about developments in Vietnam and Southeast Asia. He praised the sympathy and support displayed by the Arabs in general, and Syria in particular, toward the Vietnamese people's struggle for independence and unity. He underlined the need to strengthen the fruitful cooperation among the developing countries to realize their common goals.

Comrade (Van Tai) also praised the achievements and successes scored by Syria on the road toward development and progress. He stressed that comprehensive peace in the region cannot be attained without Syria and that implementing the UN resolutions is the only way to achieve that desired peace.

India

Coast Guard Seizes PRC Trawlers in Bay of Bengal

BK0610074294 Hong Kong AFP in English 0615 GMT
6 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New Delhi, Oct 6 (AFP)—The Indian foreign ministry and coast guard are locked in a tussle over the confiscation of three Chinese fishing trawlers caught poaching in Indian waters, The Times of India reported Thursday.

The foreign ministry here has demanded the immediate release of the vessels "in the interest of Sino-Indian relations" but the coast guard is resisting the pressure, the newspaper said.

It also said there were indications that the Chinese trawlers may have been engaged in espionage.

The Chinese trawlers and 55 crew members were impounded by the Indian coast guard on August 18 near the Andaman islands in the Bay of Bengal, the Times said. Warning shots were fired to force the ships to surrender, it said.

According to a report prepared by India's Intelligence Bureau, the vessels were carrying detailed charts and maps showing coastal areas of the Bay of Bengal and several neighboring countries, the newspaper said.

It said some of the maps were published by the People's Liberation Army and that the vessels, owned by a company belonging to the Chinese government, were fitted with modern electronic gadgets.

Minister Denies Country Possesses Nuclear Bomb

BK0510125994 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The commerce minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, has categorically stated that India does not have a nuclear bomb, nor it intends to produce one. He said India's policy is very clear that it will use atomic energy only for peaceful purposes.

Mr. Mukherji was addressing a press conference at the United Nations today after meeting with the U.S. deputy secretary of state, Mr. Strobe Talbott. Mr. Mukherji said Washington is in favor of bilateral talks between India and Pakistan to resolve the Kashmir issue and feels that high-profile diplomacy in international forums will not solve the purpose. Mr. Mukherji said foreign ministers of several countries whom he met have also expressed similar views.

UN Envoy Responds to Pakistani Charges on Kashmir

BK0510112194 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] India has asserted that Pakistan itself is the biggest threat to peace in Kashmir and South

Asia. The deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, Mr. T.P. Srinivasan, told the UN General Assembly that Pakistan believes that incessant repetition of falsehood will turn into truth. Responding to the Pakistan foreign minister's reference to the Kashmir issue in the General Assembly, Mr. Srinivasan said Pakistan is yet to respond to India's offer for talks on all subjects. He said while India has become an obsession for Pakistan, Islamabad's histrionics are merely an annoying distraction for New Delhi.

Stating emphatically that Jammu and Kashmir is and shall remain an integral part of India, Mr. Srinivasan apprised the assembly of the current political process undertaken in the state. He urged the delegate members to prevail upon Islamabad to stop its support to those seeking to disrupt democracy by violence and intimidation.

He charged Pakistan with using illegal narcotic trafficking to finance terrorist activities in the Kashmir valley and said the territorial ambitions of Pakistan in Kashmir are overt and blatant.

Iran

U.S. Warned to Stop Military Operations in Gulf

LD0510183694 Tehran IRNA in English 1114 GMT
4 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct 4, IRNA—A military official here Tuesday warned the U.S. to stop illegal operations of its forces in the Persian Gulf waters.

Speaking to Iran on the condition of anonymity, the official further added that the Islamic Republic of Iran, through official channels, has recently protested the untimely military exercises and provocative measures of the U.S. warships against Iranian helicopters and vessels in the region.

Iran's permanent envoy to the United Nations Kamal Kharrazi recently sent an official note to the U.N. secretary general Butrus Butrus-Ghali protesting the "untimely military exercises" of the U.S. warships positioned in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

The official stressed that Iran would consider illegal movements of the U.S. forces as an "obstacle" in the way of free patrolling of vessels in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

Meanwhile, an international relations professor studying latest developments in the Persian Gulf, termed presence of the U.S. military forces in the Persian Gulf as a "threat" to the safety of regional flights and navigation, adding that there was no guarantee in this connection.

He further told IRNA that after the Persian Gulf war in 1990, the U.S. and its allies were attempting hard to

create a state of insecurity and tension in the region in order to justify their military presence in the Persian Gulf.

Referring to the shooting down of an Iranian air bus by the U.S. warship over the Persian Gulf waters in 1988, the professor noted that the U.S. and British military war games in the Persian Gulf would threaten lives of thousands of people travelling in the region.

Khamene'i: Lifting of Boycott on Israel 'Treason'

LD0510175194 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the esteemed leader of the Islamic revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, attended a graduation ceremony for cadets of the Ground Forces Officers' University this afternoon. [passage omitted]

At the ceremony, the commander in chief made a speech and referred to the present situation of the Iranian Armed Forces. The commander in chief said: Thanks to the revolution and Islam, and the glorious and at the same time painful experience of the imposed war, the Armed Forces of Islamic Iran are today a proud, glorious, self-sacrificing, pious believer, and, most importantly, a popular army. [passage omitted]

The esteemed leader said: The Islamic Republic of Iran is endeavoring to reduce, as far as possible, the reliance of its Armed Forces on the outside world. For that reason, Iran's foreign purchases of military equipment are considerably less than those of the small Persian Gulf littoral states. Some of those countries, the areas of which are smaller than some provincial towns of Islamic Iran, are buying more military equipment than we are. And with their nations' money they are saving weapons' manufacturing companies from bankruptcy.

Referring to the poisonous propaganda by the arrogant powers and their puppets in the region, making Islamic Iran out to be a militarist country, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said: A country with 60 million people, a glowing history, a great people, a popular government, and an outstanding experience of the eight year imposed war has certainly fortified its defensive strength against the bloodsucking powers, and in order to reduce reliance on abroad has concentrated its efforts on producing the best military equipment inside the country.

The commander in chief went on to say: Military hardware alone is not enough to defend a nation's integrity, honor, and values. It is the will of the people which can defend a nation. Because of wrong policies and corrupt governments, the Persian Gulf littoral states lack that great factor.

The esteemed leader then termed the biggest treason against the history of Arab countries as the action by the Persian Gulf littoral states in lifting sanctions against the

usurper Zionist regime. He said: The Zionist regime has usurped an Islamic country belonging to an Arab nation, and the Persian Gulf littoral states, by lifting sanctions against the Zionists, have not only put the seal of approval on the usurpation of Palestine and the oppression of the Muslim people of that land, but have also supported that usurping regime. They have thus committed the biggest act of treason against Muslim and Arab nations, and more than anyone else the Palestinian nation.

Stressing that Palestine belongs to the Palestinians, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said the world's realities cannot be altered with political ploys and seasonal and ad-hoc developments. Palestine belongs to the Palestinians, and the Zionist regime is a usurper and false government. The occupied land of Palestine has no real citizens other than the native people of Palestine. Thanks to the efforts of the Muslim nations, the Zionists will one day be forced to return Palestine to its rightful owners. The coming of that day is definite and inescapable.

The commander in chief stressed that the Iranian nation makes its own decisions independently and freely, and said: Our nation is free and independent, it thinks and acts without receiving instructions from arrogant powers. The Islamic system follows correct insight, correct logic, and the interests of the nation and the country.

The eminent leader of the Islamic revolution said the remarks of the Iranian nations' enemies stem from their fear of the great power of the armed forces, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and the Basij force, and said: The Islamic system relies on God and this great nation. Our armed forces are the powerful arms and strong claws of this proud nation. [passage omitted]

GCC Relations With Israel Said 'Tourism Diplomacy'

LD0610091994 Tehran IRNA in English 0833 GMT 6 Oct 94

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6, IRNA—An English-language daily Thursday termed the new move by the members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, PGCC, in establishing relations with the Zionist regime as "tourism diplomacy".

"TEHRAN TIMES" in its editorial referred to the recent statements by Izi Borowitz, managing director of Arkia airlines which belongs to the Zionist regime, in which he disclosed that the airlines has reserved seats for a 200-member tour group to visit Bait-ul-Moqaddas early next year.

He considers the tour to be one of the benefits of the so-called peace process, providing opportunity for thousands of tourists from the Persian Gulf littoral states to visit the occupied territories, the daily noted.

Seen from another angle, the move is a snub at the Arab league which is opposed to the countries lifting the embargo against the Zionist regime, it added.

"The establishment of relations with the Zionist regime signifies nothing other than giving away one's Islamic-Arab dignity at the cost of servility to the inveterate enemy of Islam," said the article.

With such a move, the paper continued, these countries sow the seeds of discord among other Arab countries, something which is hailed by the Zionist entity. But, it stressed, one should not ignore popular resistance.

"These states should take a lesson from the Islamic revolution in Iran, whose people rebelled against a dictatorial dynasty, a surrogate of the West and Zionism."

The paper concluded by saying: "If there is no protest by the people of the PGCC countries, their policy will be firmly implemented. It is, therefore, incumbent upon the Muslim people of these countries to protest the new policy, as their political, Islamic duty."

Velayati Condemns Serb Aggression in Bosnia

LD0510212894 Tehran IRNA in English 2105 GMT
5 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations HQ, (New York), Oct 5, IRNA—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati speaking at the ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement [NAM] here Wednesday condemned the continuing acts of aggression by the Serbs against the Bosnian people.

Addressing the chairman of the assembly, he said in his speech:

"The proposal made by President (Alija) Izetbegovic before the (U.N.) General Assembly last week on the illegal arms embargo against Bosnia has removed any excuse for further procrastination in lifting this unjustified and illegal embargo. We believe that the absence of these facts in the final communique will undermine the credibility of the movement."

He was critical of the U.N. Security council towards the Bosnian crisis and said: "The continuing acts of aggression, genocide, ethnic cleansing and siege of safe areas including Sarajevo perpetrated by the Serbs against the Bosnian people and the persistent policy of the Security Council in appeasing the aggressors are so well known that need no further elaboration."

Velayati said the Bosnian Government has demonstrated its good faith in all peace talks while the Serbs have rejected all peace proposals.

"Yet, the Security Council has not only failed to implement its own resolutions, but has officially rewarded the aggressor in its recent resolution on the easing of sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro," he regretted.

Referring to Palestine, the Iranian foreign minister said all Palestinians should be allowed to return to their homeland enabling them to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and the liberation of all of their occupied homeland.

On the proposed changes in the Security Council, he said the working group on the reform of the Security Council had held different meetings in which Iran also actively participated. He added the demands for transparency, accountability and democratization of the Security Council have always been high on the agenda of the NAM.

"We should also address the question of application of double standards by the Security Council as well as ways and means of enhancing the accountability of the Council to the General Assembly," said Velayati.

Turning to the dangers posed by lack of control on nuclear and chemical arms, he said Iran attaches importance to the forthcoming Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review and extension conference to be held next year.

Deploing the "unjustified restrictions" on access to nuclear material and technology for peaceful purposes to non-nuclear NPT members, the Iranian foreign minister "my delegation totally subscribes to Paragraph 24 of the draft communique on NPT on the necessity of coordination among NAM members." [sentence as received]

On chemical arms, he said, last year the first preparatory committee was not able to adopt any resolution on chemical weapons convention because the Western countries were resisting any proper reference to Article 11 of the convention relating to economic and technical cooperation in the chemical sector.

He said because no tangible progress had been achieved in the course of negotiations in The Hague and the industrial countries are not prepared to undertake their commitments under Article 11 of the convention, non-aligned countries should ensure proper reference to this issue during the current General Assembly.

Referring to the issue of the human rights, Velayati said "we should continue to be vigilant at the attempts of a few who are misusing concepts such as human rights as instrument of political pressure or as a means of political exploitation to impose their own values on others. In this context, our coordinated position in the forthcoming meetings of the working group of the third committee is essential."

Velayati concluded by hoping that the non-aligned countries would be able to "enhance the role that NAM can and must play at the United Nations."

Reports Efforts 'Lauded' by UN Chief

LD0510134194 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT
5 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations, Oct 5, IRNA—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali

here Tuesday lauded Iran's political efforts in paving the way for the signing of Tajikistan peace accord in Tehran and called on the Islamic Republic to use its political influence for the settlement of disputes in Afghanistan and establishment of ceasefire there.

Speaking in a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, he termed as important Iran's position in the Persian Gulf and expressed support for removal of misunderstandings between Tehran and Abu Dhabi.

Velayati voiced Iran's readiness for the settlement of misunderstandings with neighbors and a for collective cooperation to preserve security in the region and welcomed holding of talks with the officials of the Emirates with no precondition.

The Iranian foreign minister said that Iran still awaited the visit of the Emirates' foreign minister to Tehran to continue negotiations.

He further added that Iran would not hesitate taking steps leading to the establishment of peace and stability in neighboring countries and termed the agreement reached between the Tajik Government and opposition groups as important.

The Iranian foreign minister said that the ceasefire would be established upon the arrival in Dushanbe of the U.N. peace-keeping forces.

Velayati, also announcing Iran's readiness to help peace talks in Afghanistan, criticized the U.N. Security Council for its decisions to ease economic sanctions against Serbia.

He reiterated that due to critical situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the siege to Sarajevo, the Security Council should either defend the Bosnian people or let them defend themselves with the support of the Islamic countries.

Departs New York for Tehran

*LD0610085394 Tehran IRNA in English 0729 GMT
6 Oct 94*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations, New York, Oct. 6, IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left here for Tehran Wednesday night after attending the 49th meeting of the U.N. General Assembly.

During his 12-day stay, Velayati delivered a speech at the General Assembly and held talks with his counterparts from a number of countries including members in the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the Non-aligned Movement (NAM) and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

During the meetings he elaborated Iran's stand towards international and regional issues especially those of the world of Islam.

As the rotating chairman of the ECO, he made extensive efforts to establish and consolidate cooperation between ECO and other regional organizations as well as specialized U.N. institutions. As a result, several agreements were signed in this connection.

Over 60 high-ranking officials from various world countries who were also attending the General Assembly discussed mutual ties and future cooperation in their meetings with Foreign Minister Velayati.

In his talks on the last day of his stay here, Velayati discussed mutual ties and regional issues with his counterparts from Vietnam, Kenya, Ethiopia and Tanzania.

He also conferred with the U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali and the rotating president of the General Assembly, Amara Essy.

Change in the structure of international organizations and current international and regional developments were major topics of Velayati's talks with the two U.N. officials.

Velayati also outlined Iran's achievements in the past few years in a gathering of over 1,000 Iranian professors and experts residing in the United States.

Envoy to UN Deplores Violation of Muslims' Rights

*LD0510132794 Tehran IRNA in English 0738 GMT
5 Oct 94*

[Text] United Nations, New York, Oct. 5, IRNA—Iran's permanent representative to the U.N. Kamal Kharrazi Tuesday stressed that Muslims will not keep silent vis-a-vis treatment of their co-religionists in European countries.

Kharrazi, speaking to IRNA here, was commenting on the statement issued by foreign ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on Tuesday in support of the Muslims residing in European countries.

Kharrazi described the statement as the symbol of a new move among Islamic countries and called on the European states to avoid violating the rights of Muslim communities in their countries.

Pressures on Muslim minorities in Western countries have been intensified recently and in some places Muslims face hindrances in performing their Islamic rites.

In their meeting on the sidelines of the ongoing annual session of the U.N. General Assembly, the OIC foreign ministers expressed their concern over the biased confrontation of certain European states with Muslims residing in their countries.

The foreign ministers also expressed concern over some discriminations against Muslim immigrants in Europe and termed it as violation of human rights and stripping Muslims of religious and cultural freedom.

Kharrazi said that the Tuesday move of the OIC further proved the consensus, coordination and unity of Islamic countries in defending the rights of Muslims in European countries.

This move shows that while European countries claim to be advocating human rights, they violate the rights of Muslims in their own communities, he said.

The envoy deplored that violation of Muslims' rights has been escalated in recent months and regretted that in some countries such a violation was being committed by the governments.

Government officials in European countries, especially education authorities in France, have intensified their pressure on Muslim girls by instructing them not to wear Islamic hijab or otherwise would be deprived of attending classes.

Rafsanjani on Desalination Plant on Abu Musa

LD0510204994 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in Persian 1900 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The cabinet held a session tonight chaired by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Energy Minister Bizhan Zanganeh briefed the cabinet, saying: With the inauguration of a desalination plant on Abu Musa Island, its inhabitants will not face any water shortages for the next 30 years.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani appreciated the efforts of the Energy Ministry officials with regard to commissioning the new desalination plant on Abu Musa Island, and expressed the hope that the inhabitants of Abu Musa, Hormuz, and other islands and areas in Hormozgan Province will also benefit from the necessary facilities, which will enable them to lead a better life.

On the performance of his ministry in Hormozgan Province, the energy minister said: During the last 6 months, the inhabitants of 30 villages of the province have been provided with electricity, and Hormuz Island will also be provided with drinking water by the end of the current year.

Ne'matzadeh Receives Confidence Vote as Minister

LD0510163294 Tehran IRNA in English 1621 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh received vote of confidence from the Majles for the post of minister of industries with 127 in his favour and 76 against of the 212 votes cast today.

President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in a speech at the open session of the Majles, chaired by Vice-Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hassan Rohani, said a powerful minister would serve the interests of the system in view of the transition from the public to the private sector.

Following merger of the Industries and Heavy Industries Ministry by a Majles decision on September 13, Ne'matzadeh who hitherto served as minister of industries now takes charge of the newly-established ministry.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani also lauded the services of Hadi Nejad-Husaynian who served as minister of heavy industries.

After hearing the president's speech, opponents and proponents of the proposal voiced their views touching on the performance of Ne'matzadeh as the industry minister.

Energy Official Predicts Falling Oil Production

LD0510185294 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1730 GMT 5 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The continuing growth in the consumption of oil by-products, which currently stands at about 6 percent, will bring problems for our country regarding oil production for exports, and bigger problems in the provision of foreign exchange.

The head of the International Energy Studies Institute said today: If the trend continues, Iran's oil production will fall after 1377 [1998-99]. And in 1389 [2010-11], despite increased global demand for oil, Iran will produce 3.5 million barrels, and will only have 100,000 barrels for exports.

Bhutan

Accord on SAARC Preferential Trading Ratified

BK0310071894 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 3 Oct 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bhutan has ratified the framework of agreement on the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] preferential trading arrangement. With this, the Himalayan kingdom became the third country to do so among the seven-member regional grouping. Nepal and Sri Lanka have already ratified the agreement. The other member states are in the process of completing the formalities to ratify the agreement.

Nepal

Parliamentary Elections Postponed to 15 Nov

BK3009114894 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 30 Sep 94

[Text] The parliamentary elections in Nepal have been postponed by two days. The elections originally scheduled for the 13th of November will now be held on the 15th. The Nepalese Supreme Court has given a green signal to the caretaker prime minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala's, recommendation to King Birendra for postponement of the midterm polls by two days after hearing the case.

Pakistan**President Meets French Defense Staff Chief**

BK0610030294 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Oct 94

[FBIS Translated Text] Admiral Jacques Lanxade, chief of the defense staff of the French Armed Forces, called on President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari in Islamabad last night and exchanged views with him on matters relating to cooperation between the two countries' armed forces. The president apprised the French admiral on the developments in the region with special reference to the Kashmir issue and said France should urge the EEC countries to view the issue in its correct perspective. Adm. Jacques Lanxade said France is concerned over the Kashmir issue, because the dispute is not only creating humanitarian problems, but also causing tension in the region. General Shamim Alam Khan, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, was also present during the meeting.

Bhutto: U.S. Accords 'Great National Success'

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[FBIS Transcribed Text] The prime minister has said every effort is being made to develop hydel [hydroelectric] and thermal power in the country and to end load shedding [power blackouts] and to lead the nation toward all-round progress. She was performing ground-breaking ceremony of Chashma hydel power project today. Ms. Benazir Bhutto said her government is determined to undertake such development projects in every sector of the economy to make the country prosperous and to free it from all ills. She said her government's energy policy has won worldwide acclaim, under which energy projects of 6,000 megawatts have been approved to bridge the gap between power generation and consumption.

She described agreements with the American investors as a great national success, as a result of which \$4 billion will be invested in a single year. She also made special reference to the rural electrification program and said 6,000 villages are being provided electricity every year. She explained that all policies of her government were aimed at making Pakistan a model for other countries. She assured the nation that after completion of Qazi Barotha dam project, more such projects will be undertaken with national consensus.

Earlier, the federal minister for water and power, Malik Ghulam Mustafa Khar, underlined the importance of

Chashma hydel power project as a milestone in national development. Radio Pakistan's representative says the Chashma power project will be completed by 1998 at a cost of over 10,557 million rupees.

Army Chief's Statement on Nuclear Program Hailed

BK0610063394 Lahore JANG in Urdu 27 Sep 94 p 4

[Editorial: "Echoing the Sentiments of 120 Million People"]

[FBIS Translated Text] General Abdul Waheed, Army chief of staff, while answering a journalist's question at a function marking the national day of Saudi Arabia, declared that we cannot give what the United States is asking for as a quid pro quo for the F-16 aircraft. There are aircraft in the world which are even better than the F-16's. We have other options too, he added.

This is not the first time that the Army chief has categorically expressed his views about the F-16 aircraft. Earlier too, similar statements—which did not mention the nuclear program—attributed to him and to senior military spokesmen have been heard by the general public. It is no longer a secret that the United States is ready to supply the F-16 aircraft if Pakistan agrees to abandon its nuclear program, but no Pakistani Government will ever be ready to enter into such a deal.

Gen. Waheed's statement has come at a time when certain opposition circles have been alleging that 16 energy sector agreements with the United States have been achieved by compromising the country's nuclear program. Gen. Waheed has also indirectly answered the allegations of these critics by saying that if the nation is not ready to forsake its nuclear program in exchange for the F-16's, how can it compromise the nuclear program for agreements of a commercial nature? Anyway, Gen. Waheed's assertion reflects the feelings of the 120 million people of Pakistan, and he has encouraged the nation by saying that there are aircraft even better than the F-16's and all options are open to Pakistan, which can find alternative sources if the United States does not agree to provide the F-16's. Since this is an issue concerning our national security and defense, it should not be overlooked.

The U.S. authorities should understand that Pakistan reserves the right to have nuclear technology, which it has acquired with its own resources and expertise, and no unilateral restriction or temptation can force Islamabad to forgo its realistic stand on this issue. Washington should fully understand Islamabad's standpoint and give up using pressure tactics if it really desires to have better relations with Pakistan.

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